

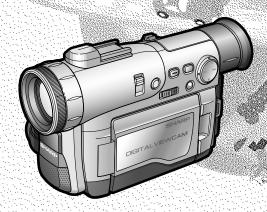
Preparation



LIQUID CRYSTAL DISPLAY CAMCORDER

MODEL VL-WD250U

■ OPERATION MANUAL ■



S H A R P VIEWCAM

Mini **N** 

The <sup>™</sup> D logo is a trademark.

Please read this operation manual carefully before using the VIEWCAM.

## Important

For assistance in reporting the theft or loss of this product, record on the line below the model number and serial number which are located on the bottom of the unit. Please retain this information.

Model No.:

Serial No.:

• See page 69 for use of Demo mode.

Thank you for purchasing this camcorder from SHARP.

The camcorder will enhance your home video enjoyment and allow you to capture those special moments. Please read this operation manual to familiarize yourself with the camcorder's features, so that you will get the most out of it. The video techniques section will help you fully enjoy the many features this camcorder offers, and expand your video world.

## Important Information for Consumers in the U.S.

WARNING: TO REDUCE THE RISK OF FIRE OR ELECTRIC SHOCK, DO NOT EXPOSE THIS APPLIANCE TO RAIN OR MOISTURE.



## **CAUTION:**

TO REDUCE THE RISK OF ELECTRIC SHOCK, DO NOT REMOVE COVER. NO USER-SERVICEABLE PARTS INSIDE. REFER SERVICING TO QUALIFIED SERVICE PERSONNEL.



This symbol warns the user of uninsulated voltage within the unit that can cause dangerous electric shocks.



This symbol alerts the user that there are important operating and maintenance instructions in the literature accompanying this unit.

## CAUTION

(applies to the supplied AC adapter)

TO PREVENT ELECTRIC SHOCK, MATCH WIDE BLADE OF PLUG TO WIDE SLOT, FULLY INSERT.

## CAUTION

If the AC adapter is misplaced or needs to be replaced, obtain the same type of adapter from a SHARP service center of your dealer.

## PRODUCT DISPOSAL

This Product utilizes tin-lead solder, and a fluorescent lamp containing a small amount of mercury. Disposal of these materials may be regulated due to environmental considerations. For disposal or recycling information, please contact your local authorities or the Electronics Industries Alliance; www.eiae.org.

## BATTERY DISPOSAL

CONTAINS LITHIUM-ION RECHARGEABLE BATTERY. MUST BE RECYCLED OR DISPOSED OF PROPERLY. CONTACT LOCAL AGENCIES FOR INFORMATION ON RECYCLING AND DISPOSAL PLANS IN YOUR AREA.

**WARNING**—FCC Regulations state that any unauthorized changes or modifications to this equipment not expressly approved by the manufacturer could void the user's authority to operate this equipment.

#### NOTE

This equipment has been tested and found to comply with the limits for a Class B digital device pursuant to Part 15 of the FCC Rules. These limits are designed to provide reasonable protection against harmful interference in a residential installation. This equipment generates, uses, and can radiate radio frequency energy and, if not installed and used in accordance with the instructions, may cause harmful interference to radio communications. However, there is no guarantee that interference will not occur in a particular installation. If this equipment does cause harmful interference to radio or television reception, which can be determined by turning the equipment off and on, the user is encouraged to try to correct the interference by one or more of the following measures:

- Reorient or relocate the receiving antenna.
- Increase the distance between the equipment and receiver.
- Connect the equipment into an outlet on a circuit different from that to which the receiver is connected.
- Consult the dealer or an experienced radio/TV technician for help.

A shielded I/F cable is required to insure compliance with FCC regulations for Class B computing equipment.

## DECLARATION OF CONFORMITY Sharp Camcorder

This device complies with Part 15 of the FCC Rules. Operation is subject to the following two conditions: (1) This device may not cause harmful interference, and (2) this device must accept any interference received, including interference that may cause undesired operation.

### **RESPONSIBLE PARTY:**

SHARP ELECTRONICS CORPORATION Sharp Plaza, Mahwah, New Jersey 07430 Phone: 1-800-BE-SHARP

### CAUTION ON LITHIUM BATTERY (MEMORY BACKUP BATTERY)

If a battery is reversed (positive end where the negative end belongs and vice versa), it can overheat and rupture. This has happened when young children install batteries backwards. Warn children *not* to take out batteries or install them. *Parents should install the lithium battery in the camcorder.* 

# **COPYRIGHT WARNING:** It is the intent of SHARP that this unit be used in full compliance with the copyright laws of the United States and that prior permission be obtained from copyright owners

whenever necessary.

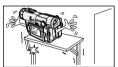
#### NOTE

The camcorder's LCD panel is a very high technology product with more than 61,000 thin-film transistors\*, giving you fine picture detail. Occasionally, a pixel may appear on the screen as a fixed point of blue, green, red, or black. Please note that this does not affect your camcorder's performance.

<sup>\*</sup>Specifications are subject to change without notice.

## IMPORTANT SAFEGUARDS

- Read Instructions—All the safety and operating instructions should be read before the product is operated.
- Retain Instructions—The safety and operating instructions should be retained for future reference.
- Heed Warnings—All warnings on the product and in the operating instructions should be adhered to.
- 4. Follow Instructions—All operating and use instructions should be followed.
- Cleaning—Unplug this product from the wall outlet before cleaning. Do not use liquid cleaners or aerosol cleaners. Use a damp cloth for cleaning.
- Attachments—Do not use attachments not recommended by the product manufacturer as they may cause hazards.
- Water and Moisture—Do not use this product near water—for example, near a bath tub, wash bowl, kitchen sink, or laundry tub; in a wet basement; or near a swimming pool; and the like.
- Accessories—Do not place this product on an unstable cart, stand, tripod, bracket, or table. The product may fall, causing serious injury to a child or



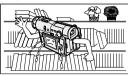
adult, and serious damage to the product. Use only with a cart, stand, tripod, bracket,

or table recommended by the manufacturer, or sold with the product. Any mounting of the product should follow the manufacturer's instructions, and should use a mounting accessory recommended by the manufacturer.

9. A product and cart combination should be moved with care. Quick stops, excessive force, and uneven surfaces may cause the product and cart combination to overturn.

10. Ventilation—Slots and openings in the cabinet are provided for ventilation and to ensure reliable operation of the product and to protect it from overheating, and these openings must not be blocked or covered. The openings should never be blocked by placing the

product on a bed, sofa, rug, or other similar surface. This product should not be placed in a built-in installation such



as a bookcase or rack unless proper ventilation is provided or

the manufacturer's instructions have been adhered to.

- 11. Power Sources—This product should be operated only from the type of power source indicated on the marking label. If you are not sure of the type of power supply to your home, consult your product dealer or local power company. For products intended to operate from battery power, or other sources, refer to the operating instructions.
- 12. Grounding or Polarization—This product may be equipped with a polarized alternating-current line plug (a plug having one blade wider than the other). This plug will fit into the power outlet only one way. This is a safety feature. If you are unable to insert the plug fully into the outlet, try reversing the plug. If the plug should still fail to fit, contact your electrician to replace your obsolete outlet. Do not defeat the safety purpose of the polarized plug.
- 13. Power-Cord Protection—Power-supply cords should be routed so that they are not likely to be walked on or pinched by items placed upon or against them, paying particular attention to cords at plugs, convenience receptacles, and the point where they exit from the product.
- 14. Lightning—For added protection for this product during a lightning storm, or when it is left unattended and unused for long periods of time, unplug it from the wall outlet and disconnect the antenna or cable system. This will prevent damage to the product due to lightning and power-line surges.

- 15. Power Lines—An outside antenna system should not be located in the vicinity of overhead power lines or other electric light or power circuits, or where it can fall into such power lines or circuits. When installing an outside antenna system, extreme care should be taken to keep from touching such power lines or circuits as contact with them might be fatal.
- Overloading—Do not overload wall outlets, extension cords, or integral convenience receptacles as this can result in a risk of fire or electric shock.
- 17. Object and Liquid Entry—Never push objects of any kind into this product



through openings as they may touch dangerous voltage points or short-out parts that could result in

a fire or electric shock. Never spill liquid of any kind on the product.

- 18. Servicing—Do not attempt to service this product yourself as opening or removing covers may expose you to dangerous voltage or other hazards. Refer all servicing to qualified service personnel.
- 19. Damage Requiring Service—Unplug this product from the wall outlet and refer servicing to qualified service personnel under the following conditions:
  - a. When the power-supply cord or plug is damaged,
  - b. If liquid has been spilled, or objects have fallen into the product,
  - c. If the product has been exposed to rain or water,
  - d. If the product does not operate normally by following the operating instructions. Adjust only those controls that are covered by the operating instructions as an improper adjustment of other controls may result in damage and will often require extensive work by a qualified technician to restore the product to its normal operation,
  - e. If the product has been dropped or damaged in any way, and

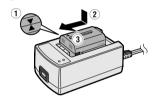
- f. When the product exhibits a distinct change in performance—this indicates a need for service.
- 20. Replacement Parts—When replacement parts are required, be sure the service technician has used replacement parts specified by the manufacturer or have the same characteristics as the original part. Unauthorized substitutions may result in fire, electric shock, or other hazards.
- Safety Check—Upon completion of any service or repairs to this product, ask the service technician to perform safety checks to determine that the product is in proper operating condition.
- Wall or Ceiling Mounting—The product should be mounted to a wall or ceiling only as recommended by the manufacturer.
- 23. Heat—The product should be situated away from heat sources such as radiators, heat registers, stoves, or other products (including amplifiers) that produce heat.

## **Quick Operation Guide**

Please consult this operation manual further for details on these and other functions of your camcorder.

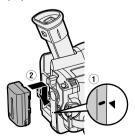
## **Charging the Battery Pack**

- 1 Connect the supplied power cord to the AC power socket on the AC adapter/ battery charger, and insert the AC plug into a power outlet.
- Align the ▼ mark on the battery pack with the ▲ mark on the charger (①) and guide the battery into the groove. Pressing the battery (②), slide it in the direction of the arrow (③) until it locks into place.



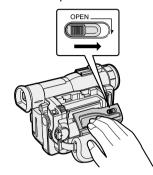
## **Attaching the Battery Pack**

- Make sure that the Power switch is set to OFF.
- 2 Lift up the viewfinder.
- Align the mark on the side of the battery pack with the ◀ mark on the camcorder (①), and slide the battery pack down completely until it locks into place (②).

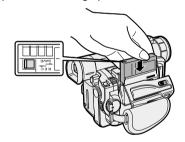


## **Inserting a Mini DV Cassette**

Attach the power source to the camcorder, then slide the cassette compartment door release and open the cassette compartment door.



2 Insert the cassette fully with the window facing outwards, and with the erasure protect tab facing upwards.



Press the sustained mark gently until the cassette holder clicks into place. Close the compartment door by pressing the center until it clicks into place.



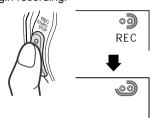
## **Easy Camera Recording**

- Make sure that a cassette is inserted.
- 2 Remove the lens cap, and lift up the viewfinder.
- 3 Hold down the Lock button and set the Power switch to CAMERA.



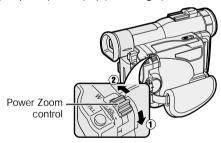
Lock button

Press the REC START/STOP button to begin recording.



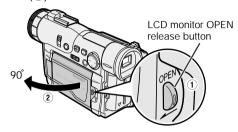
## Zooming

Push the Power Zoom control to T (1) (telephoto) or W (2) (wide angle) side.



## **Tape Playback**

Press the LCD monitor OPEN release button (1), and open the LCD monitor to a 90° angle to the camcorder body **(2)**.

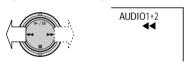


- Adjust the LCD monitor to an angle that allows easy viewing on the on-screen picture.
- Hold down the Lock button and set the Power switch to VCR.



Lock button

Press **◄** (or **▶**) on the Operation button to rewind (or fast forward) the tape to the desired point.



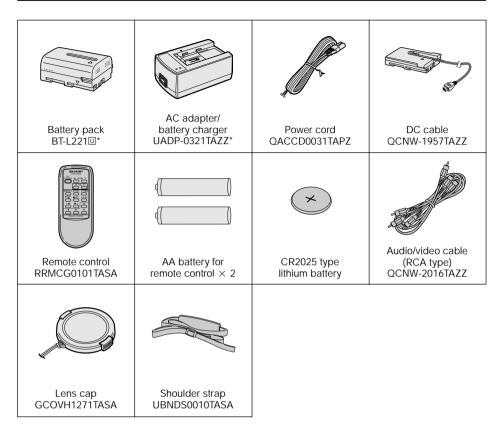
Press ►/ II to begin playback.



## To stop playback

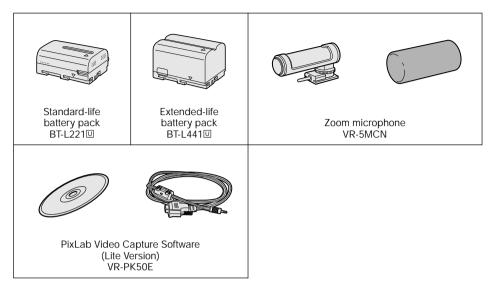
Press ■.

## **Supplied Accessories**



<sup>\*</sup> The part numbers for the AC adapter/battery charger and battery pack supplied with this camcorder are valid only in the U.S. and Latin America. If this camcorder was purchased outside of these areas, the part numbers may be different. Please refer to the part numbers printed on the labels of the supplied AC adapter/battery charger and battery pack.

## **Optional Accessories**



Note: The listed model names are for U.S. accessories.

For optional and additional accessories, contact your local dealer, call the Sharp Accessories and Supply Center at 1-800-642-2122, or visit SHARP's website (http://www.sharp-usa.com).

## **Precautions**

- When the camcorder is not in use, remember to remove the cassette tape, turn off the power, and disconnect the camcorder from the power source.
- Do not aim the lens at the sun.
  Do not allow direct sunlight to strike the
  camcorder lens or LCD monitor screen,
  whether or not recording is in progress, as it
  may damage the CCD sensor or LCD screen
  surface. Be particularly careful when
  recording outside.
- When shooting in dark places, avoid sudden brightly lit objects or light sources, such as the sun. Otherwise, the image may white out. Should this happen, point the lens in a different direction until the picture returns to normal.
- Avoid magnetic sources.
   Using the camcorder near strong fluorescent lights, motors, televisions, or other magnetic sources may adversely affect recorded images.



- Using the camcorder near a broadcasting station or other powerful transmission source may cause buzzing or picture deterioration.
- Avoid shocks and dropping.
   Do not drop or otherwise subject the camcorder to hard shocks or strong vibrations. Bumping or striking the unit during recording will generate noise in the recorded image.



 Avoid placing the camcorder in close proximity to lighting equipment.
 The heat from incandescent lights

The heat from incandescent lights may deform the camcorder, or cause it to malfunction.



- Always respect prohibitions or restrictions on the use of electronic equipment on commercial flights or in other sensitive areas.
- Be aware of the temperature and humidity. You can use your camcorder at 32°F to 104°F (0°C to +40°C), and at 30% to 80% relative humidity. Do not store the unit in an unventilated car in the summer, in direct sunlight, or near strong heat sources; this can result in severe damage to the unit casing and circuitry.
- Avoid situations where water, sand, dust or other foreign matter could get on or inside the camcorder, and do not use or leave your camcorder in areas with excessive smoke, steam or moisture.

Such environments can cause malfunctions or cause mildew to form on the lenses. Be sure to keep the unit in a well-ventilated location.



 Some small, portable tripods may be difficult to attach and may not be sturdy enough to support your camcorder. Be sure to use only a strong, stable tripod.



 When using your camcorder in a cold environment, the LCD monitor screen often appears less bright immediately after the power is turned on. This is not a malfunction. To prevent the camcorder from becoming too cold, wrap it in a thick cloth (a blanket, etc.).

## **About Your Camcorder**

## **DV Technology**

Digital video, DV, is a revolutionary technology that enables recording and playback of high quality images with the use of special digital features previously unavailable with conventional analog formats.

### · High horizontal resolution

Detailed, accurate images with the highest level of horizontal resolution for home use.

## Clear color reproduction with virtually no color contamination

Provides three times the color resolution of conventional VCRs (based on Sharp models). Clear images with virtually no distracting color contamination (which usually appears as red).

## Standard use of TBC (Time Base Corrector) to prevent jittery images

Ensures stable images with a high signal-tonoise ratio.

#### PCM digital recording

PCM digital recording gives you high-quality stereo sound that puts you in the middle of the action.

The "DV" trademark can only be used on digital VCR products which have been evaluated and have met the specifications set by the HD Digital VCR Conference for Standardization of Consumer Use Digital VCR Formats.

This product incorporates copyright protection technology that is protected by method claims of certain U.S. patents and other intellectual property rights owned by Macrovision Corporation and other rights owners. Use of this copyright protection technology must be authorized by Macrovision Corporation, and is intended for home and other limited viewing uses only unless otherwise authorized by Macrovision Corporation. Reverse engineering or disassembly is prohibited.

# DV and conventional video cassette tapes

There are two kinds of DV-format video cassette tapes: the Mini DV cassette and the larger DV cassette used for extended playback and recording. This camcorder only operates with Mini DV cassettes. DV cassettes cannot be used. Be sure to use Mini DV cassettes with the Mini DV mark.

Mini DV cassette



DV cassette



8 mm, VHS, and Beta cassettes cannot be used for playback or recording with this camcorder.

VHS cassette

8 mm cassette



Beta cassette



#### Note:

 This camcorder reproduces the highest picture quality when used with an ME tape. It is recommended you use an ME tape for highquality recording and playback.

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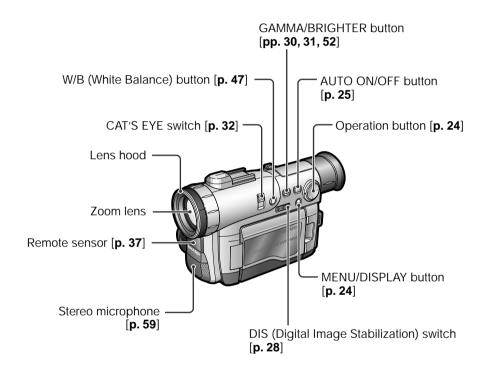
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## **Operation References**

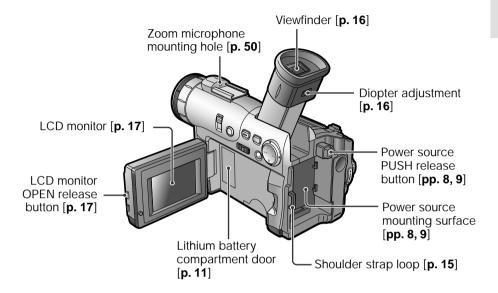
## **Part Names**

For details on the use of each part, refer to the page number indicated in brackets.

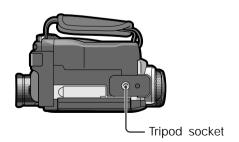
Left view



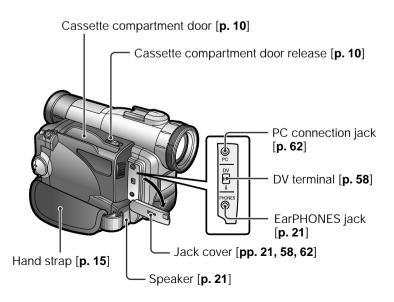
## Left view



## **Bottom view**



## Right view Power Zoom Wide angle/ Telephoto control [p. 19]/ VOLume control [p. 21] STILL button [pp. 35, 36] S-VIDEO socket [pp. 22, 56, 57] VIDEO jack Shoulder strap [pp. 22, 56, 57] loop [**p. 15**] AUDIO L jack [pp. 22, 56, 57] Power switch (CAMERA/VCR select switch) [p. 24] AUDIO R jack [pp. 22, 56, 57] RECord START/STOP button [p. 18] Jack cover [pp. 22, 56, 57]



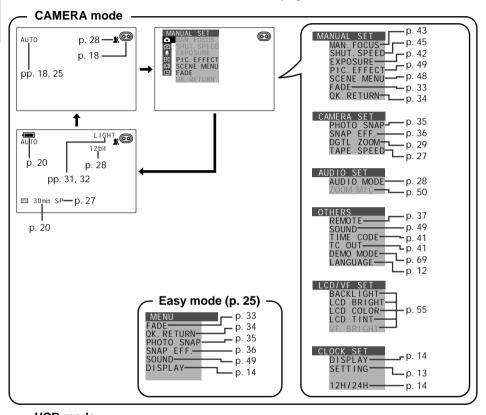
## Quick Reference List

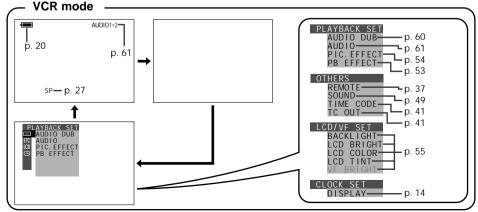
Below are some examples of camcorder's features.

- To record the subject with higher-quality audio.
  - See **page 28** (Selecting the 16-bit Audio Recording Mode)
- To record powerful close-up images.
  - See page 29 (Setting the Digital Zoom)
- To record a backlit subject.
  - See page 30 (Gamma Brightness Compensation) or page 42 (Manual Exposure)
- To record subjects at night, e.g. a nocturnal animal.
  - See page 32 (Night Recording)
- To quickly return the tape to the end of the last recorded scene after playback.
  - See page 34 (Quick Return)
- To record yourself in the scene while monitoring the shot.
  - See **page 39** (Letting the Subject Monitor the Shot)
- To focus on an off-centered subject.
  - See **page 43** (Manual Focus)
- To turn off the confirmation sounds which are made when you operate the camcorder.
  - See page 49 (Setting the Confirmation Sounds)
- To enlarge any part of the picture during playback.
  - See page 51 (Playback Zoom)
- To brighten the dark portion of the playback images without changing the bright portion.
  - See **page 52** (Gamma Playback)

## **On-screen Display Index**

For details on the use of each function, refer to the page number indicated.





#### Note

• See pages 24 to 26 for the procedure to display the desired screen.

## **Warning Indicators**

If a warning indicator appears on the screen, follow the specified instructions.



Displayed for the first 3 seconds	Displayed after 3 seconds	Description of warning
INSERT A CASSETTE.	-	There is no video cassette in the camcorder. Insert a cassette (see <b>page 10</b> ).
EJECT THE CASSETTE.	EJECT THE CASSETTE.	The video cassette is defective and should be removed (see <b>page 10</b> ).
CASSETTE NOT RECORDABLE.	-PROTECT. TAB-	The erasure protect tab on the video cassette has been slid to the record-protect position, preventing recording (see <b>page 65</b> ).
THE TAPE ENDS SOON.	-ŢÀPE ÉŃÓ-	The tape is about to end. Prepare a new cassette (see <b>page 10</b> ).
CHANGE THE CASSETTE.	TAPE END	The tape has reached the end. Replace it with a new cassette (see <b>page 10</b> ).
BATTERY IS TOO LOW.		The battery is almost depleted. Replace it with a fully charged battery pack (see <b>page 8</b> ).
DEW	-ĎĘW-	Dew has formed inside the camcorder. Wait for a few hours until the dew disappears (see page 67).  About 10 seconds after this warning appears, the camcorder automatically turns off.
•		The video heads are clogged and should be cleaned (see <b>page 68</b> ).
LAMP	LAMP	The fluorescent lamp behind the LCD monitor is close to the end of its service life. Call your local authorized Sharp dealer to have it replaced.
*	*	When the vertical rotation of the LCD monitor is between 135° and 180° in CAMERA mode, all warnings will be indicated by $\diamondsuit$ displayed in the center of the viewfinder and the LCD screen. To check the type of warning, rotate the monitor back to within 135°.

### Note:

<sup>•-)[-</sup> indicates a flashing display.

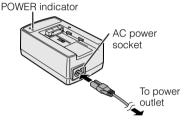
## **Preparation**

## **Charging the Battery Pack**

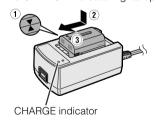
Charge the battery pack with the supplied AC adapter/battery charger before use.

#### Note:

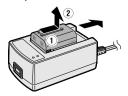
- Remove the DC cable from the AC adapter/ battery charger when charging the battery pack.
- 1 Connect the supplied power cord to the AC power socket on the AC adapter/ battery charger, and insert the AC plug into a power outlet.
  - The POWER indicator lights up.



- Align the ▼ mark on the battery pack with the ▲ mark on the charger (①) and guide the battery into the groove.
  Pressing the battery (②), slide it in the direction of the arrow (③) until it locks into place.
  - The CHARGE indicator lights up.



- The CHARGE indicator turns off when the battery is fully charged.
- 3 Slide the battery pack in the direction of the arrow (1), and remove it (2). Then, remove the AC plug of the power cord from the power outlet.



## Charging time and maximum continuous recording and playback times

Battery pack	Charging time	Max. cordi	ntinuous ng time	Max. continuous playback time on LCD
		LCD closed	LCD open	
BT-L221	100	120	100	100
BT-L441	160	240	200	200

 The chart specifies the approximate times in minutes.

#### Notes:

- Charge the battery pack between 50°F and 86°F (10°C and 30°C). The battery pack may not charge properly at temperatures too low or too high.
- The battery pack and charger become warm during charging. This is not a malfunction.
- Using the zoom (see page 19) and other functions or turning the power on and off frequently will increase power consumption. This may result in a decrease of more than 50% in the actual recording time compared to the maximum continuous recording time listed above.
- The charging time and recording time may vary depending on the ambient temperature and the condition of the battery pack.
- See page 66 for more information on using the battery pack.

### Caution:

 Charge only SHARP model BT-L221 or BT-L441 battery packs. Other types of battery packs may burst, causing personal injury and damage.

## **Extending battery pack life**

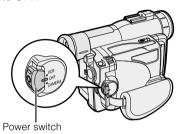
Even when the battery pack is not used, the capacity of the battery pack will naturally deteriorate over time. To limit the deterioration of the capacity, it is recommended to perform the following procedure at least once every six months:

- Charge the battery pack until the CHARGE indicator of the charger turns off.
- ② Attach the battery pack to the camcorder, and set the Power switch to CAMERA without inserting a cassette. Allow the battery power to fully discharge by leaving it on the camcorder until the camcorder power automatically turns off.
- Remove the battery pack and store it between 50°F and 68°F (10°C and 20°C).

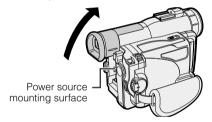
# Attaching and Removing the Battery Pack

## **Attaching the Battery Pack**

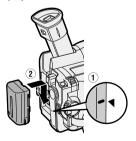
Make sure that the Power switch is set to OFF.



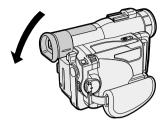
2 Lift up the viewfinder.



3 Align the ■ mark on the side of the battery pack with the ◀ mark on the camcorder (①), and slide the battery pack down completely until it locks into place (②).

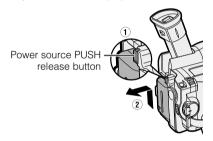


4 Lower the viewfinder.



## **Removing the Battery Pack**

- 1 Perform steps 1 and 2 above.
- Press the power source PUSH release button (1), and slide the battery pack up and take it out (2).



#### Cautions:

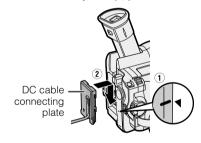
- BEFORE REMOVING THE BATTERY PACK, ALWAYS STOP RECORDING OR PLAYBACK AND TURN THE POWER OFF. If you remove the battery pack during recording or playback, the tape will remain wound around the video head drum, potentially causing damage to the tape.
- Remove the battery pack from the camcorder if you will not use the camcorder for a long period of time.
- Use only SHARP model BT-L221 or BT-L441 battery packs with this camcorder. Use of other batteries may present a risk of fire or explosion.

# Powering the Camcorder from an AC Outlet

You can also power the camcorder from a power outlet by using the supplied AC adapter/battery charger and DC cable.

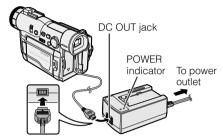
#### Caution:

- The supplied AC adapter/battery charger is specially designed for use with this camcorder, and should not be used as a power supply for other camcorders.
- Make sure that the Power switch is set to OFF.
- 2 Lift up the viewfinder.
- Align the mark on the side of the DC cable connecting plate with the ◀ mark on the camcorder (①), and slide the connecting plate down completely until it locks into place (②).



4 Lower the viewfinder.

- Insert the DC cable plug into the DC OUT jack on the AC adapter. Connect the supplied power cord to the AC adapter, and insert the AC plug into a power outlet.
  - The POWER indicator on the AC adapter lights up, and the camcorder is supplied power.

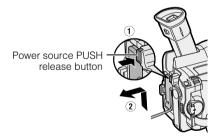


#### Note:

 When the AC adapter/battery charger is used to power the camcorder, it cannot be used to charge the battery pack.

## Removing the DC cable from the camcorder

Perform steps 1 and 2 above. Press the power source PUSH release button (①), and slide the connecting plate up and take it out (②).



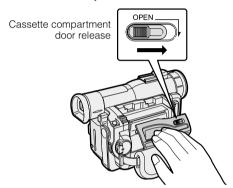
#### Cautions:

- BEFORE REMOVING THE DC CABLE, ALWAYS STOP RECORDING OR PLAYBACK AND TURN THE POWER OFF. If you remove the DC cable during recording or playback, the tape will remain wound around the video head drum, potentially causing damage to the tape.
- Disconnect the camcorder from the AC adapter if you will not use the camcorder for a long period of time.

# Inserting and Removing a Mini DV Cassette

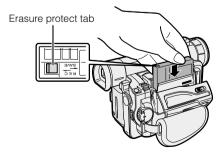
## Inserting a Cassette

- Attach the power source to the camcorder, then slide the cassette compartment door release and open the cassette compartment door.
  - A confirmation sound is made, and the cassette holder extends and opens automatically.



#### Note:

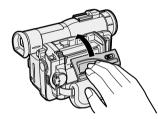
- If the hand strap is pulled too tight, it can obstruct the opening of the cassette compartment door and the cassette holder may be unable to extend. Should this occur, loosen the hand strap and open the cassette compartment door completely.
- 2 Insert the cassette fully with the window facing outwards, and with the erasure protect tab facing upwards.



- 3 Press the PUSHZ### mark gently until the cassette holder clicks into place.
  - A confirmation sound is made, and the cassette holder retracts automatically.



Wait for the cassette holder to fully retract. Close the compartment door by pressing the center until it clicks into place.



## Removing a Cassette

Perform step 1 above, then take out the cassette.

#### Cautions:

- Do not try to close the cassette compartment door while the cassette holder is extending or retracting.
- Be careful not to get your fingers caught in the cassette holder.
- Do not apply force to the cassette holder except when pressing the PUSHARS mark to close it.
- Do not tilt the camcorder or hold it upside down when you are inserting or removing a cassette. It may damage the tape.
- Remove the cassette if you will not use the camcorder for a long period of time.
- If you do not correctly close the cassette holder in step 3, the cassette protection mechanism of the camcorder might eject the cassette. If this happens, repeat the insertion procedure.
- Do not attempt to pick up the camcorder by the cassette compartment door.

#### Notes

- If the battery power is too low, you may not be able to eject the cassette. Replace the battery pack with a fully charged one.
- See page 65 for more information on the video cassette tapes intended for use with this camcorder.

# Installing the Lithium Memory Battery

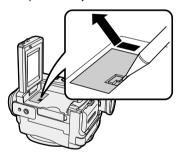
## Installing the Lithium Battery

The supplied lithium battery is used to store the memory of the date and time settings.

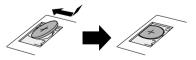
1 Press the LCD monitor OPEN release button (①) and open the LCD monitor (②).



2 Open the lithium battery compartment door using the tip of a ballpoint pen or other pointed object.



3 Insert the lithium battery into the compartment with the + side facing out.



4 Replace the compartment door, and close it firmly until it clicks into place.



5 Close the LCD monitor until it clicks into place.

## Removing the lithium battery

Perform steps 1 and 2 above. Lift up the battery using a pointed object, and take it out.



#### Note:

 Replace the battery with a new CR2025 lithium battery when the time indicator of the camcorder starts to fall behind the correct time.

# Notes on the Use of the Lithium battery

REPLACE BATTERY WITH TOSHIBA, MATSUSHITA OR HITACHI MAXELL TYPE CR2025 ONLY. USE OF A DIFFERENT BATTERY MAY PRESENT A RISK OF FIRE OR EXPLOSION.

WARNING KEEP THIS BATTERY AWAY FROM CHILDREN. IF SWALLOWED, CONSULT A PHYSICIAN IMMEDIATELY FOR EMERGENCY TREATMENT.

**CAUTION.** BATTERY MAY EXPLODE IF MIS-USED OR INSTALLED WITH POLARITY REVERSED. DO NOT RECHARGE, DISAS-SEMBLE OR DISPOSE OF IN FIRE.

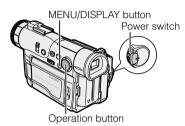
- Do not short-circuit, recharge, disassemble, or heat the lithium battery.
- Should the lithium battery leak, wipe the battery compartment clean, and then insert a new battery.
- The lithium battery will last about one year under normal usage.

# Selecting the Language for the On-screen Display

This camcorder allows you to choose from among English, French or Spanish for the onscreen display language.

#### Note:

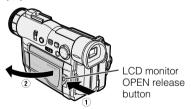
 The operation procedures in the following sections of this operation manual are based on the use of on-screen displays in English.



## Setting the Language

When using the camcorder for the first time, select the desired language for the on-screen display by performing the procedure below.

1 Press the LCD monitor OPEN release button (①) and open the LCD monitor (②).



- 2 Hold down the Lock button and set the Power switch to CAMERA.
  - The language selection screen appears on the LCD screen.



3 Press ■ or ►/II (①) on the operation button to select the desired language, then press ◄ (②).

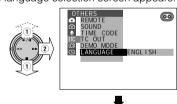






## **Changing the Language**

- **1** Set the camcorder to CAMERA mode.
- 2 Press the MENU/DISPLAY button until the menu screen appears.
- 3 Select [ŢC, then press ➤ on the Operation button. Select "LANGUAGE" ("LANGUE" or "IDIOMA") (①), then press ➤ (②).
  - The language selection screen appears.





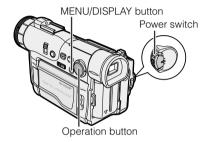
- 4 Perform step 3 in "Setting the Language".
  - The menu screen is displayed in the language selected.
- **5** Press the MENU/DISPLAY button to turn off the menu screen.

## **Setting the Date and Time**

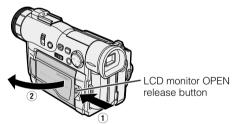
**Example:** Setting the date to June 2, 2002 (JUN. 2. 2002) and the time to 10:30 am (10:30 AM).

#### Note:

 Before performing the procedure below, make sure that the lithium battery has been installed (see page 11).



1 Press the LCD monitor OPEN release button (1) and open the LCD monitor (2).

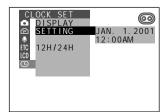


2 Hold down the Lock button and set the Power switch to CAMERA.



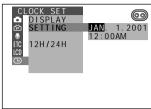
3 Press the MENU/DISPLAY button until the menu screen appears.





**4** Press **▶** on the Operation button.





Fress ■ or ►/II (①) to select "JUN" (month), and then press ►► (②).





6 Press ■ or ►/II to select "2" (day), and then press ►.

SETTING JUN. 2. 2001 12:00AM

Press ■ or ►/II to select "2002" (year), and then press ►►.

SETTING JUN. 2.2002 12:00AM

8 Press ■ or ►/II to select "10 AM" (hour), and then press ►►.

SETTING JUN. 2.2002 10:00AM

9 Press ■ or ►/II to select "30" (minute), and then press ◄ .

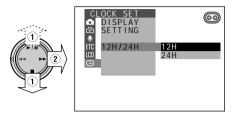
• The internal clock now starts operating.

SETTING JUN. 2.2002 10:30AM

**10** Press the MENU/DISPLAY button to turn off the menu screen.

## Changing to the 24-hour Time Mode

After performing step 9 above, press or ►/II (1) to select "12H/24H", and then press ►► (2).



Press ■ or ►/II to select "24H", and then press ◄.

12H/24H 24H

3 Press the MENU/DISPLAY button to turn off the menu screen.

#### Notes:

- The date and time, once set, are internally recorded even when not displayed on the screen.
- The menu screen automatically turns off if no settings are made within 5 minutes.

# Displaying the Date and Time of Recording

Follow the procedure below to display the date, or both the date and time, of recording on the screen. You can display the date and time during both recording and playback.

- The example screens for this feature are for CAMERA mode.
- 1 Hold down the Lock button and set the Power switch to CAMERA or VCR.
- Press the MENU/DISPLAY button until the menu screen appears.
- 3 Select ⑤, then press ➤ on the Operation button. Select "DISPLAY" (①), then press ➤ (②).





**4** Press ■ or ►/II to select "DATE" or "DATE + TIME", and then press ◄.

DISPLAY DATE+TIME

- 5 Press the MENU/DISPLAY button to turn off the menu screen.
  - The date (or the date and time) is displayed.

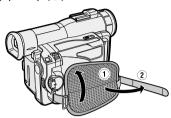


#### Notes:

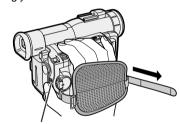
- Before recording, make sure that the date and time have been correctly set. If they have not been set, the display will be left blank when playing back the recording. (The display will also be left blank for unrecorded or damaged portions of the tape.)
- In VCR mode, the current date and time are displayed when the tape is not being played back.

## **Adjusting the Hand Strap**

1 Open the hand strap flap (①) and the grip strap (②).



2 Loosen the grip strap, pass your right hand through the loop, and put your thumb on the REC START/STOP button. Then, pull the grip strap tight until it fits snugly.



REC START/STOP button

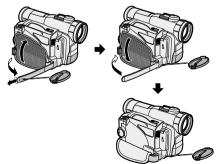
3 Seal the velcro fasteners of the grip strap and the hand strap flap.

#### Caution

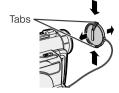
• Do not swing the camcorder by the hand strap.

## **Using the Lens Cap**

Attach the strap of the lens cap to the hand strap as shown below.



When attaching or removing the lens cap, press both tabs on the top and bottom of the cap.



When recording, hang the hook of the lens cap on the hand strap so that the cap will not get in the way.



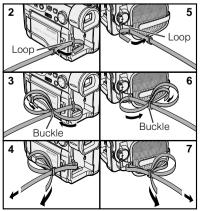
Hook

#### Note:

 Always replace the lens cap on the lens when the camcorder is not in use.

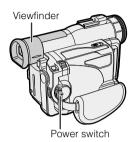
## **Attaching the Shoulder Strap**

- 1 Remove the battery pack.
- 2 Hold one end of the strap and thread it through the loop on the left side of the power source mounting surface.
- Loosen the strap in the buckle, then feed the end of the strap through the buckle, as shown.
- **4** Draw the strap in the direction of the arrow to secure.
- **5–7** To attach the other end of the strap to the loop on the left side of the hand strap, open the hand strap flap, perform the same procedure, and then attach the battery pack.

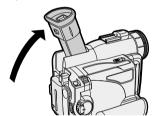


## **Using the Viewfinder**

You can record the subject using the electronic LCD viewfinder. You can also watch playback through the viewfinder.



1 Lift up the viewfinder.



#### Note:

- You can raise the viewfinder to aim the camcorder better depending on your position.
- 2 Hold down the Lock button and set the Power switch to CAMERA or VCR.
  - A picture is displayed in the viewfinder.



### Closing the viewfinder

Lower the viewfinder

#### Cautions:

- Do not use excessive force when moving the viewfinder.
- Do not pick up the camcorder by the viewfinder.

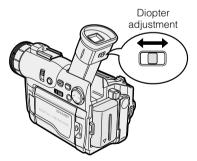
#### Notes:

- The viewfinder automatically turns off when the LCD monitor is opened. When the vertical rotation of the monitor is between 135° and 180°, however, the viewfinder is on and the subject is displayed both in the viewfinder and on the monitor (see page 39).
- Be sure to close the viewfinder after use.

## **Adjusting the Diopter**

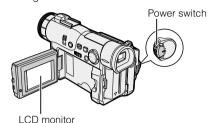
Adjust the diopter according to your eyesight when the picture in the viewfinder is not clear.

- **1** Lift up the viewfinder.
- 2 Hold down the Lock button and set the Power switch to CAMERA.
- While looking through the viewfinder, turn the Diopter adjustment until the indicators in the viewfinder are clearly visible.

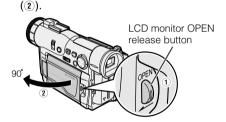


## **Using the LCD Monitor**

You can use the LCD monitor to play back recordings that you have made. You can also watch the subject on the LCD monitor while recordina.



Press the LCD monitor OPEN release button (1), and open the LCD monitor to a 90° angle to the camcorder body

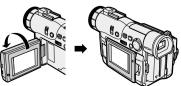


- Adjust the LCD monitor to an angle that allows easy viewing on the on-screen picture.
  - The LCD monitor rotates 270° vertically.



#### Note:

• You can also fold the LCD monitor into the camcorder with the screen facing out for watching playback on the monitor.



Hold down the Lock button and set the Power switch to CAMERA or VCR.



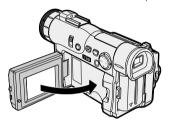
Lock button

#### Notes:

- Battery consumption is larger when the LCD monitor is open. Use the viewfinder instead of the LCD monitor when you want to save battery power.
- Use the viewfinder if the LCD screen becomes difficult to see in bright daylight.

## Closing the LCD monitor

Return the LCD monitor to the vertical 90° position with the screen facing in, and fold it into the camcorder until it clicks into place.



### Cautions:

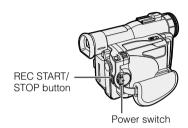
- Do not use excessive force when moving the LCD monitor.
- Do not try to rotate the LCD monitor vertically until the monitor is completely opened.
- . When closing the LCD monitor, do not tilt it; otherwise the monitor may not close properly and may become damaged.
- . Do not pick up the camcorder by the LCD monitor.
- Do not expose the LCD monitor to shocks.
- Do not apply pressure to the LCD screen
- Do not place the camcorder with the LCD screen facing down.

- Take care not to touch the LCD screen with your fingers, as perspiration and dirt will smudge it.
- Close the LCD monitor completely with the screen facing in when not in use.
- Use a soft cloth to clean the LCD screen.

# Basic Operations Camera Recording

# Easy Camera Recording in Full Auto Mode

 Before you start recording, perform the operations described on pages 7 through 17 to prepare your camcorder for recording.



- 1 Remove the lens cap, and lift up the viewfinder.
- 2 Hold down the Lock button and set the Power switch to CAMERA.
  - The picture from the lens is now displayed in the viewfinder.
  - The camcorder is now ready to record (Recording Standby mode).

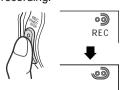
Auto mode indicator





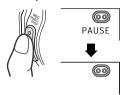
**Note:** If "MANUAL" is displayed at this time, press the AUTO ON/OFF button to set the camcorder to Auto mode.

**3** Press the REC START/STOP button to begin recording.



## To pause recording

Press the REC START/STOP button again. Recording pauses, and the camcorder enters Recording Standby mode.



## To turn the power off

Set the Power switch to OFF without pressing the Lock button

#### Notes:

- Battery power is consumed in Recording Standby mode. Turn off the power if you will not be recording again soon.
- If the camcorder remains in Recording Standby mode for more than 5 minutes, the power will automatically turn off to save battery power and to protect the tape from being damaged. To resume recording, set the Power switch to OFF and then back to CAMERA. (The camcorder will make a confirmation sound when it is left in Recording Standby mode for about 4 minutes.)

## Maximum continuous recording and actual recording times

Battery	Max. continuous recording time		Actual recording time	
pack	LCD closed	LCD open	LCD closed	LCD open
BT-L221	120	100	60	50
BT-L441	240	200	120	100

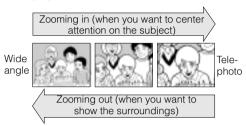
• The chart specifies the approximate times in minutes.

#### Note:

 Using the zoom (see page 19) and other functions or turning the power on and off frequently will increase power consumption. This may result in a decrease of more than 50% in the actual recording time compared to the maximum continuous recording time listed above.

## Zooming

Zooming allows you to move visually closer to or farther from a subject without physically changing your position.

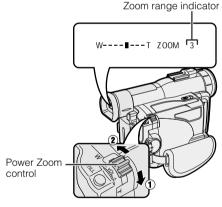


#### To zoom in

Push the Power Zoom control to the T (telephoto) side to get a close-up view (1).

#### To zoom out

Push the Power Zoom control to the W (wide angle) side to get a wide field of view (②).



- The zoom range indicator shows you the current zoom setting.
- The zoom speed depends on how far you push the Power Zoom control.

### Notes:

- The camcorder is unable to focus when zooming in on subjects within 6 feet (1.8 m). The camcorder will automatically zoom out until it is able to focus on the subject. (See page 37 for recording macro shots.)
- See page 29 for use of the digital zoom.

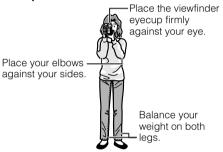
## **Tips on Recording Positions**

To create images that are easy to watch during playback, try to record with a stable posture while steadying your camcorder to prevent the image from shaking.

### Holding the camcorder

Put your right hand through the hand strap, and place your left hand under the camcorder for support.

### **Basic posture**

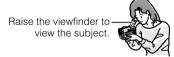


## Shooting from a high angle

Turn the LCD monitor so that the screen faces downward.



# Shooting from a low angle Using the viewfinder



### Using the LCD monitor



Turn the LCD monitor so that the screen faces upward.

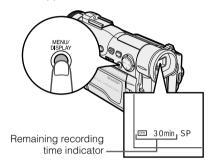
#### Note:

 Take care not to touch the microphone with your fingers during recording. It will cause noise on the audio track.

# Remaining Recording Time Display

When the camcorder is recording in CAMERA mode, an on-screen indicator displays the approximate remaining tape time in minutes.

During recording, press the MENU/DISPLAY button until the remaining recording time indicator appears.



To turn off the indicator, press the MENU/DISPLAY button again.

#### Notes:

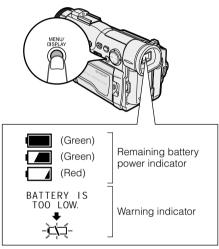
- The remaining recording time indicator appears 10 seconds after pressing the REC START/STOP button to begin recording.
- The remaining recording time indicator only shows the approximate time left. Also, it varies slightly depending on the length of tape used. (This function is based on the DVM60 tape standard.)

When the remaining recording time reaches 1 minute, a warning indicator will appear. Prepare a new cassette.

Warning indicator	Approx. remaining time
THE TAPE ENDS SOON.	Less than 1 min.
CHANGE THE CASSETTE. ↓ TAPE END	(The tape has reached the end.)

# Remaining Battery Power Display

When using the camcorder with the battery pack as the power source, you can turn on and off the remaining battery power indicator by pressing the MENU/DISPLAY button. If the battery power becomes very low, a warning indicator will appear. Replace the battery pack.



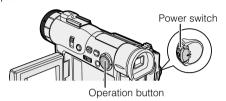
#### Notes:

- Use the remaining battery power indicator only as an approximate indication.
- The remaining battery power indicator may change to either a higher or lower level if you set the Power switch to OFF and then back to CAMERA or VCR.
- In cold environments, the red remaining battery power indicator may appear sooner. The battery pack, however, can be used until the warning indicator appears.
- Use of the zoom functions when the warning indicator is displayed may cause the camcorder to suddenly lose power.

# Basic Operations Playback

## **Playback**

The LCD monitor screen functions as a handy playback monitor. Nothing needs to be connected, allowing instant on-screen playback with the sound through the built-in speaker.



- 1 Open the LCD monitor and adjust the angle (see page 17).
- 2 Hold down the Lock button and set the Power switch to VCR.



Lock button





4 Press ►/ II to begin playback.





### To stop playback

Press ■.

### To turn the power off

Set the Power switch to OFF without pressing the Lock button.

#### Notes:

- The tape is automatically rewound when playback reaches the end of the tape.
- Stereo earphones with a 3.5 mm diameter plug can be plugged directly into the PHONES jack. When you use this jack, the speaker automatically turns off.



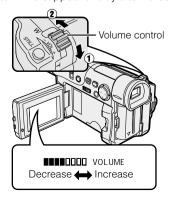
# Watching the Playback in the Viewfinder

You can also watch the playback in the viewfinder by closing the LCD monitor with the screen facing in. You cannot monitor the sound through the speaker when watching the playback in the viewfinder.

## **Volume Control**

When the camcorder is in VCR mode, push the Volume control to the + or - side to increase (1) or decrease (2) the volume.

The volume level indicator will appear on the LCD screen during adjustment only. Once the Volume control is released, the volume level indicator will disappear shortly afterwards.



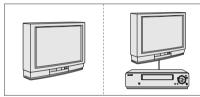
# Watching the Playback on a TV

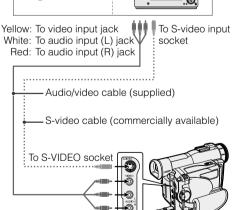
You can connect the camcorder to a TV to allow a larger audience to enjoy playback.

1 Open the jack cover on the camcorder.



2 Connect the camcorder to your TV (or VCR) with the supplied audio/video cable, as shown.





Yellow: To VIDEO jack White: To AUDIO L jack Red: To AUDIO R jack

- Turn on the TV and set it to the "AV" or "VIDEO" channel. (See the operation manual of your TV.)
  - When connecting to a TV via a VCR, turn on the VCR and set it to the "AV" or "LINE" input channel. Operate the TV as you normally do to see the signal from the VCR. (See the operation manuals of your TV and VCR.)
- Set the Power switch on the camcorder to VCR, and begin playback (see page 21).

#### Caution:

 Make sure that the camcorder, TV, VCR and other equipment to be connected have been turned off before you make connections. Making connections with any of the components left turned on may cause picture noise or malfunction.

#### Notes:

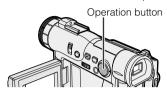
- If your TV or VCR has only one audio input jack, use the white plug for the audio connection on the TV or VCR
- If your TV or VCR has an S-video input socket, you can connect it to the S-VIDEO socket on the camcorder with a commercially available S-video cable.
- When the camcorder is connected to a TV for playback, the picture on the TV screen may flicker if the volume on the camcorder is set to maximum. Should this occur, turn the volume down (see page 21).
- Close the jack cover after use.

### About the S-video socket

S-video sockets are used to separately pass the chroma (color) and luminance (brightness) components of video signals. They serve to improve the picture quality in both recording and playback.

## Video Search

The video search function makes it easy to search for a desired scene on the tape.



- 1 During playback, press **→** (or **◄**) on the Operation button.
  - The playback picture fast forwards (or reverses).





When you find the desired scene, press

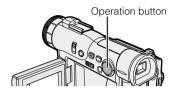
▶ / III to return to normal playback.

#### Notes:

- The sound is off during search.
- Some picture noise appears during search. This is not a malfunction.

## Still

The still function makes it possible to pause playback.



During playback, press ►/■ on the Operation button.





To return to normal playback, press ►/II again.

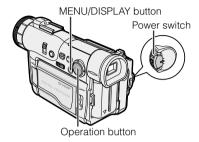
### Notes:

- The sound is off in Still mode.
- To protect the tape, the camcorder automatically returns to normal playback if it is left in Still mode for more than 5 minutes.

# **Useful Features**

# **Using the Controls**

The following controls on the camcorder can be used to select and operate the various functions, settings and on-screen displays.



### Power switch

To turn the power on, hold down the Lock button and set the Power switch to CAMERA or VCR.



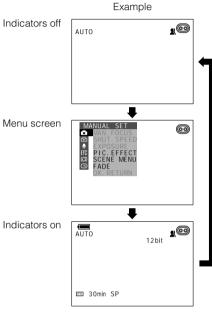
To turn the power off, set the Power switch to OFF without pressing the Lock button.



# **MENU/DISPLAY** button

The MENU/DISPLAY button is used to turn the on-screen indicators and the menu screens on or off. Each time you press the MENU/DISPLAY button, the on-screen display changes as shown below.





### Note:

 The warning indicators and some other indicators cannot be turned off by pressing the MENU/DISPLAY button.

# **Operation button**

The Operation button is used to select and set the various menu settings by pressing

►/II (1), ◄ (2), ■ (3) or ► (4).



# **Selecting the User Mode**

This camcorder features three user modes for camera recording functions. The selectable items on the menu screen are different depending on the user mode.

### User mode

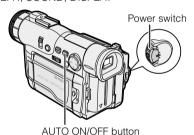
**Auto mode (AUTO):** Lets you adjust all menu settings except manual settings.

**Manual mode (MANUAL):** Lets you adjust all settings including the following manual settings.

-MAN. FOCUS, SHUT. SPEED, EXPOSURE

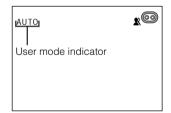
**Easy mode (EASY):** Lets you adjust only the following basic menu settings.

—FADE, QK. RETURN, PHOTO SNAP, SNAP EFF., SOUND, DISPLAY



- 1 Hold down the Lock button and set the Power switch to CAMERA.
  - The user mode indicator is displayed.





## **2** Press the AUTO ON/OFF button.

- Each time you press the AUTO ON/OFF button, the user mode changes between Auto mode and Manual mode.
- To select Easy mode, hold down the AUTO ON/OFF button for more than two seconds.



- All manual settings in Manual mode will be canceled when you press the AUTO ON/OFF button to return to Auto mode.
- To cancel Easy mode, hold down the AUTO ON/OFF button for more than two seconds.
- There is only one VCR mode.
- The example screens in this operation manual assume the use of Auto mode unless otherwise indicated.

# **Using the Menu Screens**

The menu screens can be used to adjust the various settings of camcorder.

Hold down the Lock button and set the Power switch to CAMERA or VCR.



Press the MENU/DISPLAY button until the menu screen appears.





3 Press ■ or ►/II (①) on the Operation button to select the desired menu screen, then press ►► (②).







4 Press ■ or ►/II (①) to select the desired menu item, then press ►► (②).

Example





- Fress or ►/II (①) to select the desired menu setting, then press ◄ (②).
  - To adjust another menu item, press ◄, then perform steps 3 to 5.

Example





### To turn off the menu screen

Press the MENU/DISPLAY button.

- Certain menu items are common among Camcorder modes. If the REMOTE menu item, for example, is set to "OFF" in CAMERA mode, it will be automatically set to "OFF" in VCR mode.
- The menu screen automatically turns off if no settings are made within five minutes.

# Useful Features Camera Recording

# Recording in LP (Long Play Recording) Mode

This camcorder allows you to record in LP (Long Play Recording) mode for approximately 50% more recording time with the same picture quality as that in SP (Standard Play Recording) mode.

- 1 Set the camcorder to CAMERA mode.
- 2 Press the MENU/DISPLAY button until the menu screen appears.





3 Select ②, then press ➤ on the Operation button. Select "TAPE SPEED" (①), then press ➤ (②).

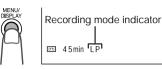




4 Press ■ or ►/II to select "LP", then press ◄.



- 5 Press the MENU/DISPLAY button to turn off the menu screen.
  - The recording mode indicator changes from "SP" to "LP".



### To return to SP mode

Select "SP" in step 4 above.

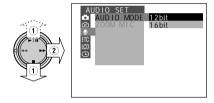
### Notes on the use of LP mode

- To record in LP mode, be sure to use a Mini DV cassette labeled for use with LP mode.
- Frozen images, mosaic-pattern picture noise, audio interruptions or audio loss may occur in the following cases:
  - —When using a tape which is not designated for use with LP mode.
- —When a tape recorded in LP mode under high-temperature conditions is played back.
- —When a tape recorded in LP mode with the camcorder is played back on a Mini DV player or camcorder from another manufacturer
- —When a tape recorded in LP mode is played back on a Mini DV player or camcorder without an LP function.
- Audio dubbing is not possible with LP mode recording.

# Selecting the 16-bit Audio Recording Mode

This camcorder allows you to select between the 12-bit and 16-bit audio recording modes. The camcorder normally records audio in the 12-bit audio recording mode. For higher-quality audio recording, select the 16-bit audio recording mode.

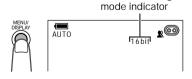
- 1 Set the camcorder to CAMERA mode.
- 2 Press the MENU/DISPLAY button until the menu screen appears.
- 3 Select ♠, then press ➤ on the Operation button. Select "AUDIO MODE" (①), then press ➤ (②).



4 Press ■ or ►/II to select "16bit", then press ◄.

## AUDIO MODE 16bit

- 5 Press the MENU/DISPLAY button to turn off the menu screen.
  - The audio recording mode indicator changes from "12bit" to "16bit".



Audio recording

# To return to 12-bit audio recording mode

Select "12bit" in step 4 above.

### Note:

 When using Audio Dubbing with 16-bit audio recordings, both the dubbed and original sounds will be recorded in mono (see page 59).

# Digital Image Stabilization (DIS)

The digital image stabilization (DIS) function is factory preset to on to stabilize the image by electronically compensating for relatively minor image shaking that is often annoying in close-up shots.



### Note:

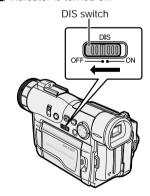
 The DIS function cannot compensate for excessive image shaking.

# **Turning Off the DIS Function**

When image shaking does not occur (e.g. when using the camcorder on a tripod), turn off the DIS function. The picture will appear more natural when the DIS function is off.

In Recording Standby mode, set the DIS switch to OFF.

• The 2 indicator is turned off.



### To return to DIS mode

Set the DIS switch to ON.

# **Setting the Digital Zoom**

You can select from among four different zoom ranges:  $1-26\times$  (optical zoom),  $26-50\times$  (digital zoom),  $26-100\times$  (digital zoom) or  $26-780\times$  (digital zoom). The digital zoom allows you to record powerful close-up pictures with the same operation as normal zooming.

### Notes:

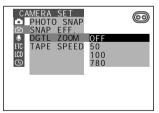
- The digital zoom is in addition to the optical zoom giving a combined maximum zoom range of 1–780 ×.
- As the image is enlarged digitally, the picture quality decreases when higher digital zoom settings are used.
- 1 Set the camcorder to CAMERA mode.
- Press the MENU/DISPLAY button until the menu screen appears.





3 Select ♠, then press → on the Operation button. Select "DGTL ZOOM" (1), then press → (2).



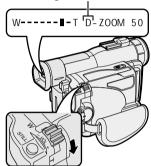


**4** Press ■ or ►/**II** to select "50", "100" or "780", then press **◄**.

DGTL ZOOM 100

- **5** Press the MENU/DISPLAY button to turn off the menu screen.
  - The "D" digital zoom indicator is displayed during digital zooming.

Digital zoom indicator



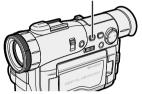
# To use optical zoom only

Select "OFF" in step 4 above.

# Gamma Brightness Compensation

When the subject is backlit, the image will appear dark if it is recorded normally. The gamma brightness compensation function improves the picture by increasing the brightness of the subject while leaving the brighter portion of the image unaffected.

GAMMA/BRIGHTER button



In CAMERA mode, press the GAMMA/BRIGHTER button once.

• "GAMMA" appears, indicating that Gamma Brightness Compensation is now working.









# To obtain a brighter picture

 $\hbox{Press $\underline{$t$}$ he GAMMA/BRIGHTER button again.}$ 

• The 💹 indicator appears.





### Note:

 When the indicator is displayed, the background will become slightly brighter.

# To cancel Gamma Brightness Compensation

Press the GAMMA/BRIGHTER button until "GAMMA" disappears.

# Useful Features Camera Recording

# Gain-up

When you are recording in a dark or poorlyilluminated location, "LIGHT" is displayed on the screen. Use the gain-up function to record a brighter picture.

### Note:

 At locations where lighting is adequate, "LIGHT" will not appear. The gain-up function cannot be used in this case.





In CAMERA mode, press the GAMMA/BRIGHTER button once.

• "GAMMA" appears, indicating that the gain-up function is now working.







# To obtain a brighter picture

Press the GAMMA/BRIGHTER button again.

The indicator appears.





# To cancel the gain-up function

Press the GAMMA/BRIGHTER button until "GAMMA" disappears.

- Some picture noise appears in Gain-up mode. The picture noise increases when the \(\tau\times\) indicator is displayed.
- When the \(\sqrt{\sq}}}}}}}}}}}}} \scrt{\sqrt{\sqrt{\sqrt{\sqrt{\sqrt{\sqrt{\sqrt{\sqrt{\sqrt{\sqrt{\sqrt{\sqrt{\sqrt{\sqrt{\sqrt{\sqrt{\sq}}}}}}}}}}} \signignignightared{\sqrt{\sq}}}}}}}} \end{\sqrt{\sqrt{\sqrt{\sq}}}}}}}} \end{\sqrt{\sqrt{\sq}}}}}}} \end{\sqrt{\sqrt{\sqrt{\sq}}}}}}}} \end{\sqrt{\sqrt{\sqrt{\sqrt{\sqrt{\sqrt{\sqrt{\sqrt{
- Fine brightness adjustment is possible using the manual exposure function (see page 42).

# Night Recording (Cat's Eye)

The night recording function allows you to record the subject in darkness. This is useful when you want to record subjects at night, e.g. a nocturnal animal.

### Note:

 Use Night Recording when "LIGHT" is displayed.
 Do not use in a bright location such as outdoors in broad daylight.



In CAMERA mode, set the CAT'S EYE switch to ON.

 "CAT'S EYE" appears, and the picture becomes brighter.







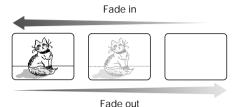
# To cancel Night Recording

Set the CAT'S EYE switch to OFF.

- The picture will turn white if you use Night Recording in a bright location.
- The camcorder may not be able to focus correctly when using Night Recording. In such cases, use the manual focus function to obtain proper focus (see page 43).
- The following functions do not work when using Night Recording.
  - Manual shutter speed
  - Manual exposure
- White balance lock
- Scene menu
- You can obtain a much brighter picture of the subject by pressing the GAMMA/BRIGHTER button to select Gain-up mode and then setting the CAT'S EYE switch to ON

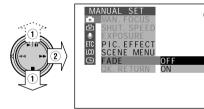
# Fade In and Fade Out

The fade function allows you to gradually bring the image and sound in or out at the beginning or end of a scene for creating scene transitions. This is especially effective for indicating a dramatic change in scenery.



# **Setting Fade Mode**

- 1 Set the camcorder to CAMERA mode.
- Press the MENU/DISPLAY button until the menu screen appears.
- 3 Select , then press → on the Operation button. Select "FADE" (①), then press → (②).



4 Press ■ or ►/II to select "ON", then press ◄.



- **5** Press the MENU/DISPLAY button to turn off the menu screen.
  - "FADE" is displayed.

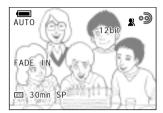


FADE indicator

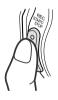
## Using Fade Mode

- 1 Press the REC START/STOP button to begin recording.
  - The picture turns white, and the image and sound fade in.

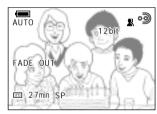




- Press the REC START/STOP button at the point where you wish to stop recording.
  - The image and sound fade out as the picture gradually turns white. The camcorder then returns to Recording Standby mode.



(CO)



### To cancel Fade mode

Select "OFF" in step 4 in "Setting Fade Mode".

# To use Fade Out only

- 1 During recording, perform steps 2 to 5 in "Setting Fade Mode" to display "FADE".
- Press the REC START/STOP button at the point where you wish to stop recording.

### Note:

 Fade mode is automatically canceled after Fade Out.

# **Quick Return**

When you have been playing back what you have recorded, and wish to quickly return to recording from the end of the last recorded scene, use the quick return function.

- In Recording Standby mode, press the MENU/DISPLAY button until the menu screen appears.
- 2 Select ♠, then press ➤ on the Operation button. Select "QK. RETURN" (①), then press ➤ (②).





- 3 Press or ►/II to select "START", then press ◄<.</p>
  - "SEARCH" flashes, and the tape begins fast forwarding or rewinding to the end of the last recorded scene.

# QK. RETURN SEARCH

When the tape reaches the end of the last recorded scene, "FINISHED" is displayed, and the camcorder enters Recording Standby mode.

4 Press the MENU/DISPLAY button to turn off the menu screen.

### Notes:

- If the cassette has been removed since the last recording or if no recording has been made since the cassette was loaded, the quick return function cannot be used.

# **Edit Search**

The edit search function lets you search, without switching from CAMERA mode to VCR mode, for the point on the tape where you wish to start recording next.



1 In Recording Standby mode, press and hold down ►► (forward edit search) or ◄◄ (reverse edit search) on the Operation button.





When you find the point where you want to begin recording, release the button.

- The sound is off during search.
- Forward edit search is performed at the same speed as normal playback, and reverse edit search at 5.5 times the normal playback speed.
- Some picture noise appears during reverse edit search.

# Still Recording

You can record still images of subjects with normal sound by selecting one of two still recording modes.

# Type of Still Recording modes

**SNAP:** A still picture is recorded for 6 seconds. **STILL:** A continuous still image is recorded.

# **Selecting Still Recording Mode**

- 1 Set the camcorder to CAMERA mode.
- Press the MENU/DISPLAY button until the menu screen appears.
- 3 Select ⊡, then press ➤ on the Operation button. Select "SNAP EFF." (①), then press ➤ (②).





4 Press ■ or ►/II to select "OFF", then press ◄.

# SNAP EFF. OFF

Fress ►/II (1) to select "PHOTO SNAP", then press ►► (2).





6 Press ■ or ►/II to select the desired still recording mode, then press ◄.

### PHOTO SNAP STILL

**7** Press the MENU/DISPLAY button to turn off the menu screen.

# **Using Still Recording**

- In Recording Standby mode, press the STILL button.
  - A still image of the subject is displayed.



- 2 Press the REC START/STOP button.
  - The still image of the subject will be recorded.



In SNAP mode, the camcorder returns to Recording Standby mode after recording a still image for 6 seconds.

## To pause recording

Press the REC START/STOP button.

# To cancel the still image

**In SNAP mode**, press the STILL button while the camcorder is in Recording Standby mode.

In STILL mode, press the STILL button.

- Still Recording can also be used during recording by pressing the STILL button.
- The picture quality in Still Recording mode will be slightly lower than normal pictures.

# Still Recording Effect (PHOTO SHOT)

You can use a still recording effect to record the still images. A still picture is recorded following the sound and visual effects of a camera shutter closing.

# Setting a still recording effect

- 1 Set the camcorder to CAMERA mode.
- Press the MENU/DISPLAY button until the menu screen appears.
- 3 Select ♠, then press ▶ on the Operation button. Select "PHOTO SNAP" (1), then press ▶ (2).





4 Press ■ or ►/II to select "SNAP" or "STILL", then press ◄<.

# PHOTO SNAP STILL

Fress ■ or ►/II (1) to select "SNAP EFF.", then press ► (2).





6 Press ■ or ►/II to select "PHOTO SHOT" then press ◄ .

# SNAP EFF. PHOTO SHOT

7 Press the MENU/DISPLAY button to turn off the menu screen.

# **Using PHOTO SHOT mode**

- 1 In Recording Standby mode, press the STILL button.
  - A still image of the subject is displayed.



- Press the REC START/STOP button.
  - The still image of the subject will be recorded.



# To cancel the still image

**In SNAP mode,** press the STILL button while the camcorder is in Recording Standby mode.

In STILL mode, press the STILL button.

## To cancel still recording effect

Select "OFF" in step 5 of "Setting a still recording effect".

- PHOTO SHOT can also be used during recording by pressing the STILL button.
- If you use PHOTO SHOT during recording, the visual effects of a camera shutter closing are recorded.
- You can use PHOTO SHOT without the sound effect of a camera shutter closing by setting the SOUND menu item to "OFF" (see page 49).
- The picture quality in PHOTO SHOT mode will be slightly lower than normal pictures.

## **Auto Focus**

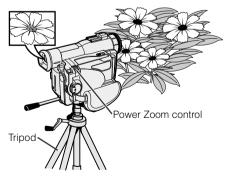
The camcorder is preset to Auto Focus mode, which is designed to focus on most types of subjects. In Auto Focus mode, the camcorder automatically focuses on whatever is in the center of the scene. Always keep the subject in the center of the scene.

### Notes:

- If no subject is in the center of the scene, the focus area will expand and the subject nearest the center will be focused on.
- If no subject is displayed, the camcorder will automatically zoom out until a subject comes into the frame.
- Auto Focus may not work in the situations described on page 43. In these situations, use the manual focus function.

# **Macro Shots**

This camcorder lets you shoot close-up images of small objects such as flowers and insects, or make title frames for your videos. When you want to record a magnified image of a subject which is within approximately 6 feet (1.8 m) of the camcorder, do not zoom in on it. Instead, zoom out all the way by pushing the Power Zoom control to the W side, and then move the camcorder closer to the subject until you obtain the desired angle of view. The camcorder will automatically focus on the subject when the lens is set for the widest angle.



### Notes:

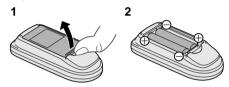
- When you are recording a macro shot, be sure that the subject receives sufficient illumination.
- It is recommended that you use a tripod for recording macro shots, to prevent image shaking.

# **Using the Remote Control**

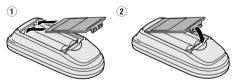
Use the supplied remote control to operate the camcorder from a distance, such as when you want to record yourself in a scene, or when the camcorder is connected to a TV for use as a VCR.

## Installing the Batteries in the Remote Control

- Open the battery compartment cover.
- Insert the two supplied AA (R6 or UM/ SUM-3) batteries with the battery poles positioned as indicated.



3 Replace the cover.



### Caution:

• Do not use old and new batteries together or batteries of different brands together.

# Turning on the Remote Control Mode

- Press the MENU/DISPLAY button until the menu screen appears.
- Select [ŢC, then press ►► on the Operation button. Select "REMOTE" (①), then press ►► (②).





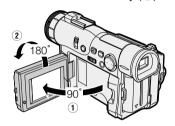
3 Press ■ or ►/II to select "ON", then press ◄.

## RFMOTF

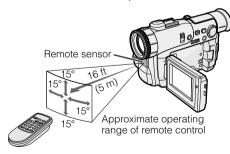
4 Press the MENU/DISPLAY button to turn off the menu screen.

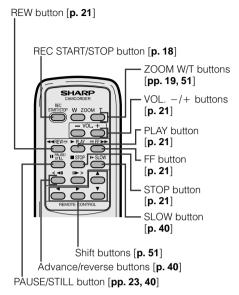
# Operating the Remote Control

1 Open the LCD monitor completely (1), then rotate it 180° vertically (2).



- 2 Set the Power switch on the camcorder to CAMERA or VCR.
- 3 Aim the remote control at the remote sensor of the camcorder, and press the control buttons for operation.





- Be careful not to allow direct sunlight or bright light from interior illumination to fall onto the remote sensor, as this may prevent the remote control from operating properly.
- Be sure that there are no obstacles between the remote control and the remote sensor.
- When the batteries are depleted and the remote control does not operate, replace them with new AA (R6 or UM/SUM-3) batteries.

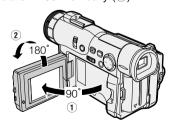
# Letting the Subject Monitor the Shot

Open the LCD monitor and rotate it 180° vertically so that the screen faces the other way and the subject can monitor the shot while you are recording with the viewfinder.

If the camcorder is steadied, you can record yourself in the scene by watching yourself on the LCD monitor. The supplied remote control is useful for such occasions.



1 Open the LCD monitor to a 90° angle to the camcorder body (①), and then rotate it 180° vertically (②).



# 2 Set the Power switch to CAMERA.

 The subject is displayed in the viewfinder, and a mirror image of the subject is displayed on the LCD monitor.



3 Press the REC START/STOP button to begin recording.

### Caution:

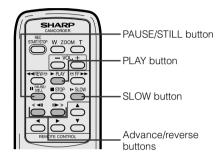
 Do not invert the image by rotating the monitor during recording.

- The screen image is automatically inverted when the vertical rotation of the monitor is between 135° and 180°. When the monitor is rotated back to within 135°, the image returns to normal.
- If the \$\sqrt{\text{ indicator flashes when the monitor is in the inverted position, this indicates a warning. To check the type of warning, rotate the monitor back to within 135°. (See page 6 for descriptions of the warning indicators.)

# Useful Features Playback

# Playback Functions with the Remote Control

These playback functions can be operated using the supplied remote control. (See pages 37 and 38 for use of the remote control.)



# **Reverse Playback**

The reverse playback function allows you to play back video in reverse.

During playback, press the **◄II** button.



To return to normal playback, press the PLAY button ( $\triangleright$ ).

### Slow

The slow function allows you to play back images in slow motion.

During playback, press the SLOW button (►).



To view slow playback in reverse, press the **◄॥** button.

To return to normal playback, press the PLAY button ( $\blacktriangleright$ ).

### Note:

 To protect the tape, the camcorder automatically returns to normal playback if it is left in Slow mode for more than 10 minutes.

### Frame Advance

The frame advance function allows you to play back still images frame by frame.

1 During playback, press the PAUSE/STILL button (**II**) to pause playback.



Press the II► (or ◄II) button.

 Each time you press the button, the picture advances one frame forward (or backward).



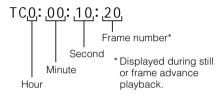
To return to normal playback, press the PLAY button ( $\triangleright$ ).

- The sound is off during reverse, slow, and frame advance playback.
- If you use the slow or frame advance function with the tape recorded in LP mode, the picture may advance several frames at a time.
- Clearer still images can be achieved by recording with a fast shutter speed (see page 45)

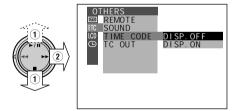
# **Using the Time Code**

The time code shows the hour, minute and second of recording, and the frame number (1 frame = approx. 1/30 sec.). This is automatically recorded along with the subject. You can display the time code on the screen as an accurate counter in both VCR and CAMERA modes.

# **Display format**



- The example screens for this feature are for VCR mode.
- During playback or recording, press the MENU/DISPLAY button until the menu screen appears.
- 2 Select [TC, then press ➤ on the Operation button. Select "TIME CODE" (①), then press ➤ (②).



**3** Press ■ or ►/II to select "DISP. ON", then press ◄.



- **4** Press the MENU/DISPLAY button to turn off the menu screen.
  - The time code appears.





### To turn off the time code

Select "DISP. OFF" in step 3 above.

### Note:

 When the tape reaches an unrecorded section, the time code returns to zero (TC0:00:00). Once recorded, the time code cannot be changed.

# Displaying the time code on a TV during playback

In VCR mode, select [ŢC, then press ►► on the Operation button. Select "TC OUT" (1), then press ►► (2).





Press ■ or ►/ II to select "ON", then press ◄.



# Advanced Features Camera Recording

# **Manual Exposure**

The camcorder is preset to Auto Exposure mode, which automatically chooses the optimal aperture. When there is too much contrast in brightness between the subject and background, however, you may not be able to record a clear image. In this case, use the manual exposure function to correct the exposure level.

# Background is too bright and subject too dark (backlit subject).

• Increase the exposure level to allow more light through the lens.







## Subject is too bright against background.

 Decrease the exposure level to allow less light through the lens.







- 1 Set the camcorder to CAMERA mode.
- Press the AUTO ON/OFF button to select Manual mode.
- 3 Press the MENU/DISPLAY button until the menu screen appears.
- 4 Select 

  , then press 

  on the Operation button. Select "EXPOSURE" (①), then press 

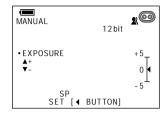
  (②).





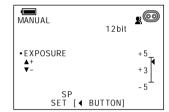
**5** Press **◄** to display the exposure setting screen.





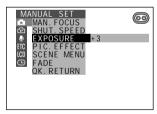
- 6 Press or ►/ II to select the desired exposure level.
  - The number shown is the selected exposure level. The adjustment range is from -5 (least light) to +5 (most light).





- **7** Press **◄**.
  - The selected exposure level is displayed on the menu screen.





**8** Press the MENU/DISPLAY button to turn off the menu screen.

# To cancel Manual Exposure mode

After performing step 4 above, select "AUTO", then press ◄.

- Manual Exposure mode will be canceled if a scene setting is selected thereafter.
- Manual Exposure cannot be used with Night Recording.
- When you want to cancel all manual settings and return to Auto mode, press the AUTO ON/OFF button.

## Manual Focus

Auto Focus may not be able to focus on the subject in the situations shown below. In such situations, set the camcorder to Manual Focus mode and focus manually.

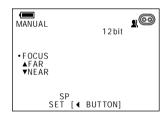


- 1 Set the camcorder to CAMERA mode.
- 2 Press the AUTO ON/OFF button to select Manual mode.
- 3 Press the MENU/DISPLAY button until the menu screen appears.
- 4 Select ♠, then press ➤ on the Operation button. Select "MAN. FOCUS" (①), then press ➤ (②).









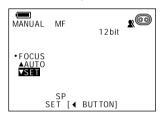
6 Adjust the Power Zoom control to frame the subject as you desire.



Press ■ or ►/II (1) to focus on the subject, then press ◄ (2).

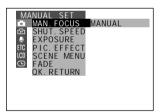






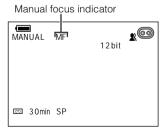
8 Press ◄.





- **9** Press the MENU/DISPLAY button to turn off the menu screen.
  - "MF" is displayed.





### To cancel Manual Focus mode

After performing step 4 above, select "AUTO", then press ◄.

- The camcorder may not be able to focus correctly if the subject is within approximately 6 feet (1.8 m). Set the zoom control to wide angle, and then try refocusing.
- If the lens is dirty or fogged, the camcorder may not be able to correctly focus.
- When "MF" is displayed, you can manually adjust the focus by pressing ■ or ►/II, even if the focus setting screen is not displayed.
- When you want to cancel all manual settings and return to Auto mode, press the AUTO ON/OFF button.

# **Setting the Shutter Speed**

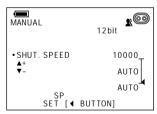
The shutter speed is preset to auto mode, which automatically chooses the optimal shutter speed for the ambient light. However, depending on the subject or situation, you may want to set the shutter speed manually to create a high-quality picture.

- 1 Set the camcorder to CAMERA mode.
- Press the AUTO ON/OFF button to select Manual mode.
- 3 Press the MENU/DISPLAY button until the menu screen appears.
- 4 Select **△**, then press **→** on the Operation button. Select "SHUT. SPEED" (1), then press **→** (2).





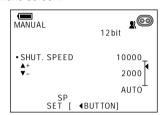




Shutter speed indicator	Shutter speed
10000	1/10,000 sec.
4000	1/4,000 sec.
2000	1/2,000 sec.
1000	1/1,000 sec.
500	1/500 sec.
250	1/250 sec.
100	1/100 sec.
60	1/60 sec.
AUTO	Variable

- 6 Press or ►/II (①) to select the desired shutter speed, then press ◄ (②).
  - The selected shutter speed is displayed on the menu screen.









7 Press the MENU/DISPLAY button to turn off the menu screen.

# To return to Auto Shutter Speed mode

After performing step 4 above, select "AUTO", then press ◄.

# **Recommended Shutter Speeds**

The faster the shutter speed, the darker the picture becomes. Select the most appropriate shutter speed for the ambient light.

Situation	Recommended shutter speed
Recording sports action in bright daylight.     Recording in bright daylight at a ski resort.	1/10,000 sec.   1/1,000 sec.
Recording outdoor sports on a partially cloudy day. Recording an outside scene through a car window (when you want to minimize blur caused by the camera shaking).	1/1,000 sec. I 1/250 sec.
When you want to reduce the light by half. Use as a substitute for an ND2 filter.	1/100 sec.

# **Tips on Using the Manual Shutter Speed**

- Fast shutter speeds can be used with the still recording function (see page 35) to record higher quality still images of fast-moving subjects.
- If the on-screen picture flickers when recording under fluorescent lighting, you may be able to compensate by setting the shutter speed to 1/100 sec.

- Recording with a shutter speed faster than 1/60 sec. tends to darken the picture. Record in bright locations when you use a fast shutter speed.
- Using a fast shutter speed under fluorescent lighting will cause flickering in the picture and possibly periodic color shifts.
- The manual shutter speed setting will be canceled if a scene setting is selected thereafter.
- The manual shutter speed setting cannot be used with Night Recording.
- When you want to cancel all manual settings and return to Auto mode, press the AUTO ON/OFF button.

# White Balance Lock

The color of the subject on the screen tends to look different depending on the lighting condition. The camcorder is preset to Auto White Balance mode, which automatically adjusts the hue of the picture for the current lighting condition.

Auto White Balance may not work properly for the following subjects. In this case, use the white balance lock function.

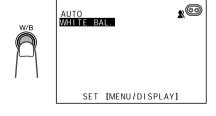
- Subjects with one dominant color or subjects against background with one dominant color
- Subjects under very bright light source, e.g. video lights
- Subjects under light source with red hue, e.g. glow of sunset
- Close-up images of small objects

### Note:

 White Balance Lock cannot be set when the camcorder is in Easy mode or the CAT'S EYE switch is set to ON.

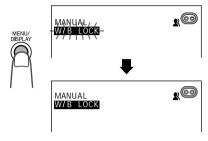


- 1 Set the camcorder to CAMERA mode.
- Press the W/B button to display the white balance lock screen.

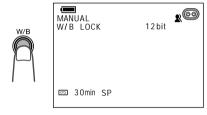


- 3 Aim the lens at a white object.
  - Adjust the distance of the object so that the entire screen is white.

- 4 Press the MENU/DISPLAY button to set the white balance lock.
  - "W/B LOCK" flashes during the locking procedure. To cancel the locking procedure, press the MENU/DISPLAY button while "W/B LOCK" flashes.



- **5** Press the W/B button to turn off the white balance lock screen.
  - "W/B LOCK" is displayed.



### To cancel White Balance Lock

- 1 Press the W/B button, then press the MENU/DISPLAY button.
  - "W/B LOCK" changes to "WHITE BAL.".
- 2 Press the W/B button to turn off the white balance lock screen.

- If the light source changes or if you move from indoors to outdoors, or vice versa, when recording with the white balance locked, the white balance may shift. Reset the white balance.
- Do not move the camcorder while "W/B LOCK" is flashing in step 4.
- If "W/B LOCK" does not stop flashing in step 4, press the MENU/DISPLAY button to cancel the locking procedure, and repeat step 4.
- White Balance Lock will be canceled if a scene setting is selected thereafter.

# Scene Menu (Program AE)

You can set the camcorder to the shooting mode that will create the best results for a specific situation. Just select one of four scene settings shown below. The camcorder will automatically set the exposure, white balance, and shutter speed to produce the optimum picture quality for the selected situation.

# Type of Scene Settings

**SPORT:** When you want to record a fast-moving subject.

**SUNLIGHT:** When the background is very bright.

**DUSK:** When you want to faithfully record the red of the setting sun, and the surrounding twilight.

**PARTY:** When the illumination is from a spotlight or candles.

- 1 Set the camcorder to CAMERA mode.
- 2 Press the MENU/DISPLAY button until the menu screen appears.





3 Select ♠, then press ▶ on the Operation button. Select "SCENE MENU" (①), then press ▶ (②).

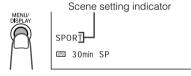




- 4 Press or ►/III to select the scene setting that best fits the recording situation, then press ◄◄.
  - The selected scene setting is displayed on the menu screen.

## SCENE MENU SPORT

- 5 Press the MENU/DISPLAY button to turn off the menu screen.
  - The selected scene setting indicator is displayed.



# To cancel the scene setting

Select "OFF" in step 4 above.

### Note:

 Scene settings cannot be used when Night Recording is used or a still image is displayed.

# **Digital Picture Effects**

These digital picture effects let you record the subject with a more dramatic effect.

# Type of Digital Picture Effects

B/W: To record in black-and-white.

SEPIA: To record in sepia color similar to that

of an old photograph.

**MOSAIC:** To record a picture divided up into tiles.

- 1 Set the camcorder to CAMERA mode.
- Press the MENU/DISPLAY button until the menu screen appears.
- 3 Select ♠, then press ► on the Operation button. Select "PIC. EFFECT" (①), then press ► (②).





4 Press ■ or ►/II to select the desired digital picture effect, then press ◄.

• The selected digital picture effect is displayed on the menu screen.

# PIC. EFFECT B/W

5 Press the MENU/DISPLAY button to turn off the menu screen.

# To cancel the digital picture effect

Select "OFF" in step 4 above.

### Note:

 Digital picture effects cannot be used when a still image is displayed.

# **Setting the Confirmation Sounds**

A confirmation sound is made when you turn on or off the Power switch, press the REC START/STOP button, or perform other designated operations. Use the procedure below to change the type of sound or to turn off the confirmation sounds altogether.

# Type of Confirmation Sound Settings

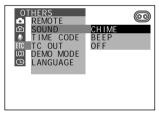
CHIME: A chiming sound is made.

**BEEP:** An electronic beeping sound is made.

**OFF:** No confirmation sound is made.

- 1 Press the MENU/DISPLAY button until the menu screen appears.
- 2 Select ETC, then press → on the Operation button. Select "SOUND" (①), then press → (②).





3 Press ■ or ►/II to select the desired sound setting, then press ◄

# SOUND BEEP

**4** Press the MENU/DISPLAY button to turn off the menu screen.

### Note:

 If "OFF" is selected, the sound effect of a camera shutter closing in PHOTO SHOT mode will also be turned off.

# Using the Zoom Microphone (Optional Accessory)

With the optional zoom microphone VR-5MCN, you can record audio according to the magnification of the zoom lens for producing the optimum sound. You can also set the zoom microphone to record only sounds at a distance.

# **Mounting the Zoom Microphone**

Align the mounting pin of the zoom microphone with the mounting hole on the camcorder, and slide the zoom microphone in the direction of the arrow until it locks into place.



2 Turn the screw in the direction of the arrow to secure the zoom microphone.



# Removing the zoom microphone

Turn the screw in the opposite direction than when mounting, and then pull off the zoom microphone.

### Caution:

 Do not pick up the camcorder by the zoom microphone, as this may cause the camcorder or zoom microphone to break down.

# **Selecting Zoom Microphone Mode**

Select a Zoom Microphone mode when the zoom microphone is mounted.

# **Type of Zoom Microphone modes**

**AUTO:** The camcorder automatically selects the optimum sound according to the magnification of the zoom lens. When the zoom lens is at a wide-angle setting, the built-in microphone is used to record sounds. As the zoom magnification increases, the sounds from the zoom microphone and built-in microphone are mixed according to the zoom setting.

**TELE:** The zoom microphone is fixed to record sounds at a distance. (The built-in microphone is turned off.)

**OFF:** The zoom microphone is turned off. (The built-in microphone is on.)

- Mount the zoom microphone to the camcorder.
- 2 Set the camcorder to CAMERA mode.
- 3 Press the MENU/DISPLAY button until the menu screen appears.
- 4 Select ♠, then press ➤ on the Operation button. Select "ZOOM MIC" (1), then press ➤ (②).





5 Press ■ or ►/III to select the desired zoom microphone mode, then press ◄◄.

• The selected zoom microphone mode is displayed on the menu screen.

# ZOOM MIC AUTO

6 Press the MENU/DISPLAY button to turn off the menu screen.

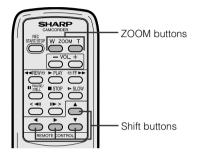
### Note:

 When the camcorder is in Easy mode, the Zoom Microphone mode is fixed to "AUTO" and cannot be selected on the menu screen.

# Advanced Features Playback

# **Playback Zoom**

The playback zoom function allows you to magnify the playback picture up to 10 times its original size and to shift the magnified picture by using the remote control (see pages 37 and 38 for use of the remote control).



1 During playback (or still playback), press the ZOOM T button to zoom in.



2 Press the Shift ◀, ▶, ▲, or ▼ button to shift the displayed image.



### To cancel Playback Zoom

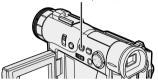
Press the ZOOM W button to zoom out to the widest angle.

- Use of Playback Zoom may cause a reduction in picture quality for still images.
- Images in Playback Zoom mode cannot be transferred to a personal computer.

# **Gamma Playback**

The gamma playback function improves the playback picture by increasing the brightness of the subject while leaving the brighter portions of the image unaffected.

GAMMA/BRIGHTER button



During playback, press the GAMMA/BRIGHTER button once.

• "GAMMA1" appears, and the picture becomes brighter.





To obtain a brighter picture, press the GAMMA/BRIGHTER button again.

• "GAMMA2" appears.





# To cancel Gamma Playback

Press the GAMMA/BRIGHTER button until "GAMMA1" and "GAMMA2" disappear.

### Note:

Gamma Playback has no effect during still playback.

# **Playback Effects**

Playback effects can be used to create an interesting scene transition between a still image and the following image during playback.

# Type of Playback Effects

**OVERLAP:** A still image fades out as the next image fades in, replacing the previous image. The two scenes momentarily dissolve.



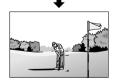




**WIPE:** A still image is replaced with the next image first appearing in the middle of the screen and gradually expanding to fill the screen.







# Preparation

Plan the scene transition, and record still images with the still recording function (see page 35).

### Notes:

- Playback effects can also be used to provide a transition from a still image to a moving image.
- Record images for 6 seconds or longer. An image recorded for less than 6 seconds may not dissolve properly.

# **Using Playback Effect**

- 1 In VCR mode, press the MENU/ DISPLAY button until the menu screen appears.
- 2 Select , then press → on the Operation button. Select "PB EFFECT" (1), then press → (2).





3 Press ■ or ►/II to select "OVERLAP" or "WIPE", then press ◄

# PB EFFECT WIPE

- **4** Press the MENU/DISPLAY button to turn off the menu screen.
- Rewind or fast forward the tape to just before the position where you want to use the playback effect, and then begin playback.
  - The still image is replaced with the next image with the selected playback effect.

# To cancel the playback effect

Select "OFF" in step 3 above.

- Scene transition does not occur if Playback Zoom or Picture Effect Playback is used thereafter.
- Playback effects will be canceled if the power source is interrupted.

# **Picture Effect Playback**

These picture effects let you play back images with a more dramatic effect.

# **Type of Picture Effects**

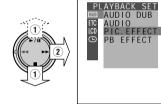
**B/W:** The picture is displayed in black-andwhite.

**SEPIA:** The picture is displayed in sepia color similar to that of an old photograph.

**MOSAIC:** The picture is divided up into tiles.

- The example screens for this feature are for VCR mode.
- During playback, press the MENU/ DISPLAY button until the menu screen appears.
- 2 Select , then press → on the Operation button. Select "PIC. EFFECT" (1), then press → (2).

SEPIA MOSAIC



3 Press ■ or ►/II to select the desired picture effect, then press ◄.

# PIC. EFFECT B/W

4 Press the MENU/DISPLAY button to turn off the menu screen.

# To cancel Picture Effect Playback

Select "OFF" in step 3 above.

### Note:

• Images in Picture Effect Playback mode cannot be transferred to a personal computer.

# Picture/Backlight Adjustments

If the picture is difficult to see due to ambient lighting or other factors, adjust the monitor picture settings.

 The example screens for this feature are for CAMERA mode.

# **Adjusting the Picture**

- 1 Press the MENU/DISPLAY button until the menu screen appears.
- 2 Press or ►/II to select LCD (①), then press ►► (②) on the Operation button.





- 3 Press or ►/II to select the item you wish to adjust, then press ►.
- 4 Press or ►/ II to adjust the item to the desired setting.









### Note:

- Close the LCD monitor to turn on the viewfinder when adjusting the "VF BRIGHT".
- 5 Press ◄◄, then press the MENU/ DISPLAY button to turn off the menu screen.

# Adjusting the Backlight

- 1 Press the MENU/DISPLAY button until the menu screen appears.
- 2 Select (CD, then press ▶► on the Operation button. Select "BACKLIGHT" (①), then press ▶► (②).





3 Press ■ or ►/II to select "AUTO", "NORMAL" or "BRIGHT", then press ◄

## BACKLIGHT BRIGHT

**AUTO:** The camcorder automatically switches between "NORMAL" and "BRIGHT" depending on the ambient lighting. This mode is only available in CAMERA mode.

**NORMAL:** For use indoors or under moderate lighting conditions.

**BRIGHT:** For use outdoors under strong lighting conditions, such as bright daylight.

**4** Press the MENU/DISPLAY button to turn off the menu screen.

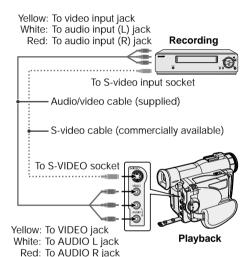
### Note:

 When the color or tint is adjusted, the picture on the LCD monitor may differ from the picture actually recorded. Do not change the color and tint settings unless it is necessary. (These adjustments only affect the monitor picture, not the recorded image.)

# **Editing**

Video editing lets you refine your videos by removing unwanted sequences from your tape, or transposing one sequence with another. This camcorder lets you monitor the source program on the built-in LCD monitor without having to connect it to an external TV or video monitor.

Connect the camcorder to a VCR with the supplied audio/video cable, as shown.



### Notes:

- If your VCR has only one audio input jack, use the white plug for the audio connection on the VCR
- If your VCR has an S-video input socket, you can use a commercially available S-video cable for the video connection. (The yellow video plug does not need to be connected to the VCR.)

# **Cutting Unwanted Sequences**

- Play back the tape to be edited on the camcorder, and locate the beginning and end of the sequence you wish to cut. Write down the time code reading at the beginning and end of that sequence (see page 41). Then, rewind the tape to before the beginning of the portion that you wish to keep.
- 2 Load a video cassette into the recording VCR.
- 3 Press ►/II on the camcorder to begin playback, and then press the Record button on the VCR to begin recording.
- Press the Pause/Still button on the VCR to pause recording when the source tape reaches the beginning of the sequence to be cut.
- Press the Pause/Still (or Record) button on the VCR to resume recording when the source tape reaches the end of the sequence to be cut.

# To stop editing

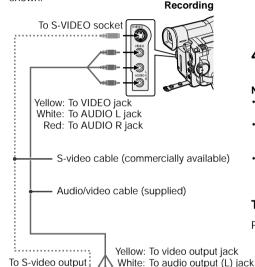
Press ■ on the camcorder and press the Stop button on the VCR.

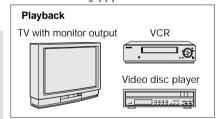
- Some of the transitions between edited sequences may be slightly off.
- There may be picture noise during video search or still playback. This does not imply a defect in the camcorder.
- The time code display will be recorded along with the edited sequences if the TC OUT item is set to "ON". Set to "OFF" before editing (see page 41).

# Recording from an External Source

You can use this camcorder to record or edit videos from another source, such as a VCR, TV, or video disc player.

Connect the camcorder to the source equipment with the supplied audio/video cable, as shown.





Red: To audio output (R) jack

socket

### Notes:

- If the source equipment has only one audio output jack, use the white plug for the audio connection on the source equipment. (The input audio will only be recorded on the left channel of the tape.)
- If the source equipment has an S-video input socket, you can use a commercially available Svideo cable for the video connection. (The yellow video plug does not need to be connected to the VCR.)

## To Record from an External Source

- 1 Set the camcorder to VCR mode.
- **2** Begin playback on the source equipment connected to the camcorder.
  - Check the camcorder screen to see if the picture is being properly received.
- 3 Press the REC START/STOP button on the camcorder.
  - The camcorder enters the Recording Standby mode.
- 4 Press ►/II on the Operation button to begin recording.

### Notes:

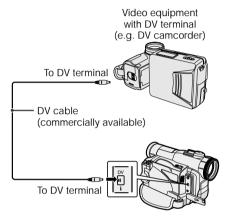
- To pause recording, press ►/II. Press ►/II again to resume recording.
- To operate by remote control, perform steps 1 and 2 above, and press the REC START/STOP button, then press the PAUSE/STILL button (II).
- If "NO SIGNAL" is displayed on the camcorder screen, check that the S-video cable or audio/ video cable is properly connected.

# To stop recording

Press ■ on the Operation button.

# Editing with the DV Terminal (IEEE1394)

This camcorder enables you to perform digital video editing. Connect the camcorder to video equipment with a DV terminal using a commercially available DV cable. A DV cable is able to transfer all dubbing signals including video and audio.



# To Record to Video Equipment

See "Cutting Unwanted Sequences" on page 56, using the video equipment as the recording source.

### Note:

 Make sure that the video equipment to which you are recording can input dubbing signals via the DV terminal.

# To Record from Video Equipment

- 1 Set the camcorder to VCR mode, and insert a Mini DV cassette.
- 2 Begin playback on the video equipment connected to the camcorder.
  - Check the camcorder screen to see if the picture is being properly received.
- 3 Press the REC START/STOP button on the camcorder.
  - The camcorder enters the Recording Standby mode.
- Press ►/II on the Operation button to begin recording.

## To stop recording

Press ■ on the Operation button.

# **Cutting Unwanted Sequences**

- Press ► / II to pause recording when the source tape reaches the beginning of the sequence to be cut.
- Press ►/II to resume recording when the source tape reaches the end of the sequence to be cut.

- Make sure that the video equipment from which you are recording can output dubbing signals via the DV terminal.
- If the video equipment is not set to the playback mode or the DV cable is not properly connected, "NO SIGNAL" is displayed on the camcorder screen.
- If no picture or sound is input to the camcorder even if the DV cable is properly connected and you are playing back the source media from the video equipment, set the Power switch on the camcorder to OFF and then back to VCR, or disconnect the DV cable and connect it again.
- If a digital video recording with a copyright protection signal is used as the playback source, "COPYRIGHT PROTECTED." appears on the camcorder monitor and the recording function is disabled (see page 65).

# dvanced Features

# **Audio Dubbing Feature**

You can add narration to recordings made with this camcorder, while preserving the original audio and video recordings.

# Microphone for Audio Dubbing

You can use the built-in stereo microphone to record narration.



Built-in stereo microphone

### Note

Audio dubbing cannot be performed via the DV terminal

## **Audio Recording**

# In normal recording mode

### 12-bit audio recording

The audio is recorded in stereo on Audio 1.

Audio 1: Stereo (left and right) sound

Audio 2: No audio

### 16-bit audio recording

The audio is recorded in stereo with the left and right sound on two separate channels.

Audio 1: Left sound Audio 2: Right sound

# In Audio Dubbing mode

## 12-bit audio recording

The dubbed audio is recorded on Audio 2.

Audio 1: Original stereo (left and right) sound Audio 2: Dubbed stereo (left and right) sound

### 16-bit audio recordina

The dubbed audio is recorded on Audio 2 over the original right sound. Both the dubbed and original sounds are in mono.

Audio 1: Original left sound Audio 2: Dubbed sound

### Note

 You can select the 12-bit or 16-bit audio recording mode by performing the procedure on page 28.

## **Audio Dubbing**

- Play back the recorded Mini DV cassette and locate the tape position where you wish to start audio dubbing.
- 2 Press ► / II to pause playback.
- 3 Press the MENU/DISPLAY button until the menu screen appears.
- 4 Select . then press ▶ on the Operation button. Select "AUDIO DUB" (1), then press **►►** (2).
  - The audio dubbing screen appears.









5 Record your narration.





## To pause audio dubbing

Press **◄**◀

#### To quit audio dubbing

Press the MENU/DISPLAY button. The audio dubbing screen disappears.

#### If you wish to change the dubbed audio or dub additional scenes

- Press the MENU/DISPLAY button to turn off the audio dubbing screen.
- Repeat steps 1 to 5 above.

- · Audio dubbing cannot be used with recordings made in LP mode.
- It is recommended that you use Audio Dubbing only with recordings made with this camcorder. Use of recordings made with other digital video equipment may result in poor audio quality.
- · Audio dubbing will automatically pause if the original audio changes from 12-bit mode to 16-operation.
- Audio dubbing will automatically stop if a portion recorded in LP mode is encountered.
- You can play back the dubbed audio and the original audio together or separately (see "Selecting the Audio Playback Mode" on next page).

# Selecting the Audio Playback Mode

You can select any of the following audio playback modes.

#### Audio 1+2

- 12-bit recording in stereo (Audio 1 and Audio 2 channels)
- 16-bit recording in stereo (left and right channels)

#### Audio 1

- 12-bit recording in stereo (Audio 1 channel only)
- 16-bit recording in mono (left channel only)

#### Audio 2

- 12-bit recording in stereo (Audio 2 channel only)
- 16-bit recording in mono (right channel only)

- 1 Play back a Mini DV cassette with dubbed audio.
- 2 Press the MENU/DISPLAY button until the menu screen appears.
- 3 Select , then press ➤ on the Operation button. Select "AUDIO" (①), then press ➤ (②).





4 Press ■ or ►/ II to select the desired audio playback mode, then press ◄.

#### AUDIO



- 5 Press the MENU/DISPLAY button to turn off the menu screen.
  - The selected audio playback mode indicator is displayed.





#### Note:

 The audio playback mode indicator, "AUDIO", is displayed in different colors depending on the recording mode (12- or 16-bit) used for the recording being played back. A white display indicates 12-bit recording mode, and a green display, 16-bit recording mode.

# Configuring Software for PC Connection

This camcorder can transfer still playback images in VCR mode or still images in CAM-ERA mode to a personal computer by using the optional Video Capture Software VR-PK50E.

## System Requirements

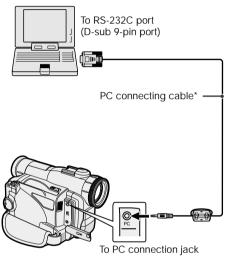
- IBM PC/AT or compatible with Intel<sup>®</sup> Pentium<sup>®</sup> 133 MHz or faster processor
- Microsoft Windows® 95B, Windows® 95C, Windows® 98, Windows® 98 Second Edition, Windows® 2000 Professional\*, or Windows® Me operating system
- 32 MB or more of RAM
- 9 MB minimum of available hard-disk space
- SVGA (800  $\times$  600 pixels) color display monitor with 16-bit color or higher
- CD-ROM drive (for installation)
- RS-232C serial port
- Mouse or other pointing device
- \* In the Windows® 2000 Professional environment, only the system administrator has installation access rights.

# Installing the Software

- **1** Turn on the PC and start up Windows.
- 2 Insert the CD-ROM of the optional Video Capture Software VR-PK50E into the CD-ROM drive.
- **3** Double click on the "My Computer" icon.
- 4 Double click on the "CD-ROM" drive icon.
- **5** Double click on the "Setup.exe" file.
- **6** Follow the instructions as they appear on the PC monitor until the installation is complete.
- 7 Restart the PC.

# Connecting the camcorder to a Personal Computer

- 1 Turn off the PC.
- **2** Connect the camcorder as shown below.
  - Before connecting the camcorder to the PC, make sure that the PC power is off to insure that images are transferred properly.



\*Included with the optional Video Capture Software VR-PK50E.

## **3** Turn on the PC.

- It is recommended to use the AC adapter/battery charger as a power source for extended periods of use.
- Images with the following functions cannot be transferred to a personal computer.
- VCR mode: Playback Zoom, Picture Effect Playback
- CAMERA mode: Digital Zoom, Digital Picture Effects, Scene Menu
- To edit still images transferred with the optional Video Capture Software, use a commercially available image editing software.

# Advanced Features Playback

## Using the Software

For tips on how to use the optional Video Capture Software VR-PK50E, refer to the operation manual located on the CD-ROM in PDF format. Follow the steps below to open the PDF file containing the manual.

#### Note:

 For the latest product information, be sure to read the "Readme" text file located in the "Readme" folder of the optional Video Capture Software CD-ROM. Select the "Readme" text file you prefer. The letters between "Readme" and ".txt" define the language; for example, "en" in "Readmeen.txt" stands for English, etc.

## **Installing Adobe Acrobat Reader**

Adobe Acrobat Reader 4.0 or later is required for viewing the PDF manual of the optional Video Capture Software VR-PK50E. If the Adobe Acrobat Reader is not installed on your PC, perform steps below to install one.

Language	File name
Chinese, Simplified	ar40chs.exe
Chinese, Traditional	ar405cht.exe
Dutch	ar405dut.exe
English	ar405eng.exe
French	ar405fre.exe
German	ar405deu.exe
Italian	ar405ita.exe
Korean	ar405kor.exe
Portugese, Brazilian	ar405por.exe
Spanish, Castilian	ar405esl.exe
Swedish	ar405swe.exe

- Insert the CD-ROM of the optional Video Capture Software VR-PK50E into the CD-ROM drive.
- 2 Double click on the "My Computer" icon.

- 3 Double click on the "CD-ROM" drive icon.
- 4 Double click on the "Acroread" folder.
- 5 Double click on the desired language version.
- 6 Follow the instructions as they appear on the PC monitor until the installation is complete.
- 7 Restart the PC.

## **Opening the PDF Manual**

- Insert the CD-ROM of the optional Video Capture Software VR-PK50E into the CD-ROM drive.
- **2** Double click on the "My Computer" icon.
- 3 Double click on the "CD-ROM" drive icon.
- 4 Double click on the "Manual" folder.
- Double click on the PDF file of the desired language version.
  - Adobe Acrobat Reader launches and the selected PDF manual opens.

#### Note:

 If the PDF file does not open, Adobe Acrobat Reader may not be properly installed. Refer to the steps of "Installing Adobe Acrobat Reader" to check the installation procedure.

# **Printing the PDF Manual**

Print out the PDF manual so that you can consult it whenever necessary.

- 1 Open the PDF manual.
- 2 Select "Print" in the "File" menu.

- The menu expressions such as "Print" and "File" may vary according to the language version of Adobe Acrobat Reader installed on the PC.
- Select your print settings, then click "OK".

# **Appendix**

## Useful Information

## Hints for Better Shooting

• Position the subject in the center of the scene. When you are using auto focus. whatever is in the center of the scene is kept in focus





the center.

Position the subject in Focus manually when you need to position the subject off center (see pages 43 and 44).

• Avoid backlit subjects. For the best picture, shoot with the light source behind you. When the background is brighter than the subject, the subject often becomes too dark. If you have to record with this lighting, use Gamma Brightness Compensation or correct the exposure level to improve the picture (see pages 30 and 42).



Light from behind

Backlighting

- Before zooming, think about how to best frame the shot. Frequent zooming produces unattractive pictures. It also increases the battery power consumption.
- When image shaking is noticeable during zoomed-in telephoto shooting, use a tripod or push the Power Zoom control to the W side to zoom out.
- Horizontal panning (lateral movement) and tilting (vertical movement) should be done slowly to emphasize the wide expanse of a scene or the height of a building, and to make scenes easy to watch during playback.
- Use a wide-angle setting for fast-moving subjects.

#### Note:

• It may take longer to focus when zooming and panning are used frequently.

## Lighting

For clear, good-quality recording, 500 to 100,000 lux is needed. Recording is possible with less light, but the picture quality may suffer. Adequate lighting is also essential for correct white balance.

Brightness (Lux)	Situation (Lux)	
	Blue sky	
100,000	Clear day at noon (100,000)	
	Clear day at 10 am (65,000)	
10,000	Clear day at 3 pm (35,000) Cloudy day at noon (32,000) Cloudy day at 10 am (25,000)  Cloudy day, one hour after sunrise (2,000) Clear day, one hour before sunset (1,000) Clear day, one hour before sunset (1,000)	
1,000	Cloudy day, one hour after sunrise (2,000) Clear day, one hour before sunset (1,000) Fluorescent light near window (1,000)	
	Factory floor (700–800) Sales counter in department store (500–700) Bowling alley (500) Library (400–500) Office with fluorescent lighting (400–500)	
100	Fluorescent desk lamp (400) Flashlight at 3 ft (1 m) (250) Shop stairway (100)	
10	During intermission at movie theater (15–35) Cigarette lighter at 1 ft (30 cm) (15–20) Candles on birthday cake at 8 inches (20 cm) (10–15) Candlelight	

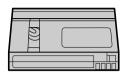
**Note:** The figures in the chart are approximations.

# Tips on good lighting

In most outdoor, daytime scenes, natural lighting is adequate for home videos. Indoors, however, artificial lighting is usually required. Video lights with halogen lamps provide the most natural artificial light over a long operating life

# Appendix

#### Mini DV Cassette

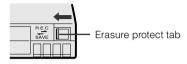


# Precautions when using a Mini DV cassette

- Be sure to use only Mini DV cassettes with the Mini DY mark.
- This camcorder can record and play back using Mini DV cassettes with cassette memory, but it cannot record or play back this memory.
- To record in LP mode, use a Mini DV cassette labeled for use with LP mode.
- Do not insert anything into the holes on the bottom of the Mini DV cassette or block them in any way.
- Avoid placing the Mini DV cassette in an area conducive to dust or mold.
- Do not place the Mini DV cassette near magnetic sources such as electric clocks or magnetic devices as this may adversely affect recorded material.
- When a previously recorded Mini DV cassette is used again for recording, the previously recorded material will be automatically erased.
- The Mini DV cassette will not operate if inserted in the wrong direction.
- Do not repeatedly insert and eject the Mini DV cassette without running the tape as this may cause uneven tape winding and damage the tape.
- Do not place the Mini DV cassette in direct sunlight, near strong heat sources, or in areas with excessive steam.
- Store the Mini DV cassette in its case and stand it in an upright position.
- If the tape is not properly wound, rewind the tape.
- Do not drop the Mini DV cassette or subject it to excessive shocks.

# To protect recordings against accidental erasure

Slide the protect tab on the rear of the Mini DV cassette to the "SAVE" position.



To record over a previously recorded tape, slide the protect tab to the "REC" position.



## **Copyright Protection**

The digital VCR has far superior recording and playback ability than the traditional analog VCR, and in order to protect digital video software copyrights, a system for managing copyrights has been established. Some digital video recording with pre-recorded copyright protection signals can still be played back on this camcorder. However, these recordings cannot be output to a TV or an external monitor. If you play a digital video recording that has a copyright protection signal on video equipment with a DV terminal and attempt to record a copy of that software on this camcorder, "COPYRIGHT PROTECTED." appears on the screen and the recording is disabled.



## **Battery Pack**

# This camcorder uses a lithium-ion type battery pack.

#### Charging

- Charge the battery pack immediately (or a day) before use. The battery pack gradually self-discharges even if stored in a fully charged state.
- Charge the battery pack between 50°F and 86°F (10°C and 30°C).
- Fully charge the battery pack. Use of an insufficiently charged battery pack will shorten actual time of use.
- Refresh (discharging before charging) is unnecessary.

#### Use

- To conserve battery power, be sure to turn off the camcorder power when not in use.
- Battery consumption may vary depending on the condition of use. Recording with many starts and stops, frequent zooming, and recording in low temperatures will shorten actual recording times.
- Use of a weak battery pack may cause loss of power while operating the camcorder. Use a fully charged battery pack to protect both the battery pack and the unit.
- It is recommended that you have enough battery packs on hand to handle two or three times your estimated recording time. See page 18 for the approximate times of actual recording for the battery packs.

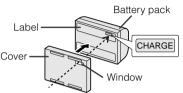
Battery power is consumed even when the camcorder power is turned off. If you are not going to use your camcorder immediately, remove the battery pack (see page 8).

#### Note:

 Use only SHARP BT-L221 or BT-L441 battery packs. These are designed specifically for use with this camcorder.

#### Storage

- Store the battery pack in a fully discharged state.
- Store the battery pack in a dry, cool place.
- When storing a fully charged battery pack, put the cover on it so that the "CHARGE" mark printed on the label is seen through the window, as shown.



When storing a battery pack that is not fully charged, put the cover upside down so that only the battery pack casing can be seen through the window.

#### Cautions:

- Improper handling of the battery pack may present a risk of fire or explosion. Pay close attention to the following:
  - Do not allow metallic objects to come in contact with the terminals. This can cause a short circuit.
- Do not disassemble or repair the battery pack by yourself.
- Do not use any battery charging equipment other than that designed for use with these battery packs.
- —Do not place the battery pack under direct sunlight or in excessively hot places (over 140°F or 60°C) such as the dashboard of cars.
- Do not expose the battery pack to moisture or water.
- Do not drop the battery pack or subject it to strong force.
- Keep the battery pack out of reach of children.
- Dispose of used battery packs promptly. Do not dispose of them in fire.
- To protect the terminals, put the cover on the battery pack when it is not being used.

- The battery pack will become warm during charging and use. This is not a malfunction.
- The battery pack has a limited service life. If the period of use becomes noticeably shorter with a normal charge, the battery pack is at the end of its service life. Replace it with a new battery pack.
- If the terminals of the battery pack are dirty, wipe the terminals with a soft, dry cloth.

# Appendix

## AC Adapter/Battery Charger

- The AC adapter/battery charger may interfere with reception if used near a radio.
- Prevent flammables, liquids, and metal objects from entering the adapter/charger.
- The adapter/charger is a sealed unit. Do not attempt to open or modify it.
- Do not damage, drop, or subject the adapter/ charger to vibration.
- Do not leave the adapter/charger in direct sunlight.
- Avoid using the adapter/charger in humid or extremely hot places.

## Replacing the Fluorescent Lamp

This camcorder uses a fluorescent lamp to backlight the LCD monitor. If the monitor becomes dark or difficult to view, the fluorescent lamp may need to be replaced. Contact the nearest SHARP service center or your dealer for further advice.

## **Dew Formation**

#### • What is "dew formation"?

When cold water is poured into a glass, dew drops form on the glass. This clinging of water drops is called dew formation.

#### · When dew forms in your camcorder.

Dew will gradually form on the head drum of your camcorder and make the video tape stick to the head. This causes damage both to the head and the tape. When dew formation occurs, recording and playback may not function properly.

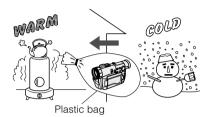
Dew is likely to form in the following circumstances:

- —When moving the camcorder from a cold place to a warm place.
- —When placing the camcorder in a cold room which is then heated rapidly.
- —When moving the camcorder outdoors from an air conditioned room.
- an air conditioned room.

  —When placing the camcorder in the direct
- path of air blowing from an air conditioner. —When placing the
- When placing the camcorder in a humid room.

#### How to prevent trouble due to dew formation.

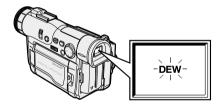
When using the camcorder in a place where dew formation is likely to occur, allow the camcorder and the video tape to acclimate to the surroundings for about one hour. For example, when bringing the camcorder indoors after skiing, place it in a plastic bag.



- ① Be sure to tightly seal the plastic bag containing the camcorder.
- Remove the bag when the air temperature inside it reaches the temperature of the room.

#### "Dew" warning feature

If dew forms, the word "DEW" flashes on the screen, and the power will automatically turn off in approximately 10 seconds.

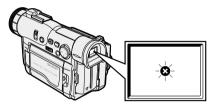


- ① If "DEW" flashes, remove the cassette, leave the cassette compartment open, and wait for a few hours to allow the camcorder to acclimate to the surrounding temperature.
- ② To use the camcorder again, turn on the power after waiting for a few hours. Be sure that "DEW" has disappeared.
- ③ Do not insert a cassette while "DEW" is flashing; this may result in damage to the tape.
- 4 Since dew forms gradually, it may take 10 to 15 minutes before the dew warning feature engages.

## **Dirty Video Heads**

Using the camcorder when the video tape is dirty may cause the heads to clog, producing noise on the recorded image or preventing the image from being recorded at all.

If the video heads become clogged, the indicator appears on the screen. Contact the nearest SHARP service center or your dealer for further advice.



# Using a Cleaning Tape (Commercially Available)

Video head cleaning can be done by using a commercially available cleaning tape.

#### Notes:

- Excessive use of the cleaning tape, however, may cause damage to the video heads. Please read the instructions accompanying the cleaning tape carefully before using it.
- The fast forward and rewind functions cannot be used when the cleaning tape is in the camcorder.
- 1 Insert a cleaning tape into the camcorder.
- 2 Set the camcorder to VCR mode.
  - The video head cleaning screen appears.
- - "NOW CLEANING" flashes during cleaning.



After about 20 seconds, video head cleaning automatically finishes, and "EJECT THE CASSETTE." is displayed.

4 Remove the cleaning tape.

To cancel cleaning, press ◀.

#### Cleaning

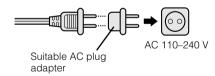
- Many plastic parts are used in the camcorder casing. Do not use thinner, benzene or other strong chemical cleaners. These may cause discoloration and damage to the casing.
- Clean the casing with a soft, dry cloth. If the casing is particularly dirty, wipe the casing with a tightly wrung cloth dampened with a diluted, neutral detergent. Then wipe it again with a soft, dry cloth.
- Use a soft cloth to wipe finger marks and other soiling off the LCD screen.
- Use a soft cloth, or compressed air and lens paper designed for photographic lenses to clean the lens and the viewfinder eyepiece.

## **Using Your Camcorder Abroad**

Television signal standards and electrical voltages and frequencies vary substantially from country to country. When you are abroad, check the sections below before using the AC adapter/battery charger or connecting the camcorder to a TV.

# AC Adapter/Battery Charger (Supplied Accessory)

The supplied AC adapter/battery charger is compatible with 50 Hz and 60 Hz electrical systems in the range of 110 V to 240 V AC. An AC plug adapter may be required depending on the design of the electrical outlet.



#### **Television Signal Standards**

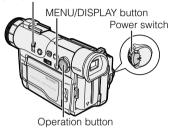
In any country, you can always watch the video picture by using the LCD monitor screen. However, if you want to watch the picture on a TV screen, the TV must be NTSC-M system compatible. NTSC-M is used in the following areas:

The Bahamas, Barbados, Bermuda, Myanmar (previously Burma), Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Greenland, Guam, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Japan, South Korea, Mexico, the Netherland Antilles, Nicaragua, Panama, Peru, the Philippines, Puerto Rico, St. Kitts, St. Lucia, Surinam, Taiwan, Trinidad, the U.S.A., Venezuela, Southern Vietnam, and the Virgin Islands.

## **Demonstration Mode**

You can watch a brief demonstration of the special camcorder features in Demo mode. If the demonstration appears on the screen when you turn on the camcorder for the first time, cancel the Demo mode to use your camcorder.

CAT'S EYE switch



#### Note:

• The demonstration is only displayed in English.

# Watching the Demonstration

- 1 Remove the Mini DV cassette from the camcorder (see page 10), and set the CAT'S EYE switch to OFF.
- 2 Hold down the Lock button and set the Power switch to CAMERA.



3 Press the MENU/DISPLAY button until the menu screen appears.





4 Select ETC, then press ➤ on the Operation button. Select "DEMO MODE" (①), then press ➤ (②).





Fress ■ or ►/II to select "ON", then press ◄.

#### DEMO MODE ON

- 6 Set the Power switch to OFF, then hold down the Lock button and set the Power switch to CAMERA.
  - The demonstration begins.

## **Canceling Demo Mode**

 During the demonstration, press the MENU/DISPLAY button to pause the demonstration.



- 2 Select FTC, then press ➤ on the Operation button. Select "DEMO MODE", then press ➤.
- **3** Press or ►/II to select "OFF", then press ◄.

# DEMO MODE OFF

**4** Press the MENU/DISPLAY button to turn off the menu screen.

#### Note:

 The demonstration will pause if you press the MENU/DISPLAY button. If you leave it for 60 seconds, or turn the power off temporarily and then set the Power switch to CAMERA, the demonstration will begin again.

# **Before Requesting Service**

Before calling for service, please check the following troubleshooting table.

	Symptom	Possible cause	Suggested solution
er	No power.	Power source is not properly connected.	Connect power source properly (pp. 8, 9).
		Battery pack is not charged.	Charge battery pack sufficiently (p. 7).
Power		Dew in camcorder.	Wait until dew dries (p. 67).
		Safety function is in effect.	Set Power switch to OFF and remove battery pack; wait for 2 seconds, then reinstall battery pack and turn on power (p. 8).
	REC START/STOP button does not work.	Erasure protect tab on video cassette is open.	Close tab or use a new cassette (p. 65).
	Power suddenly turns off.	Camcorder left in Recording Standby mode for 5 minutes in CAMERA mode.	Set Power switch to OFF and then back to CAMERA.
	Auto focus does not work.	Manual Focus mode is engaged.	Set to Auto Focus mode (p. 44).
	WOIK.	Zoom used on close subject.	Zoom out from subject (p. 19).
mode		Subject has little contrast in brightness, or is full of horizontal or vertical stripes.	Focus manually <b>(p. 43)</b> .
CAMERA mode	Bright subject produces wide vertical lines.	Occurs when shooting subject with strong contrast to the background. Does not indicate a malfunction.	
	Automatically zooms out without operating Power Zoom control.	Camcorder is unable to focus when zooming in on subject within 6 feet (1.8 m), and automatically zooms out until it focuses on subject.	
		No subject in the field of view.	Direct lens to some subject, or set zoom to widest angle before shooting (p. 19).
	On-screen displays automatically change.	Camcorder is in Demo mode.	Set DEMO MODE menu item to "OFF" (p. 69).
apor	No image appears on connected TV screen.	Video input channel on TV or TV channel is not selected properly.	Select video input channel or TV channel properly (p. 22).
VCR mode		Audio/video cable is not properly connected.	Connect audio/video cable properly (p. 22).

	Symptom	Possible cause	Suggested solution
VCR mode	Cannot play back, rewind or fast forward tape.	Position at beginning or end of tape.	Rewind or fast forward tape to desired point <b>(p. 21)</b> .
	Video noise in image.	Dirty video heads.	Call for service (p. 72), or use a commercially available video head cleaning tape (p. 68).
		Old or worn tape.	Use a new cassette.
	Cassette will not eject.	Power source is not properly connected.	Connect power source properly (pp. 8, 9).
		Battery pack is not charged.	Charge battery pack sufficiently (p. 7).
		Camcorder is recording.	Stop tape and try again (p. 18).
	Viewfinder picture is hard to see.	Viewfinder diopter is not properly adjusted.	Adjust diopter (p. 16).
	LCD monitor picture is hard to see.	Inappropriate picture adjustments.	Adjust picture (p. 55).
General	Cannot edit to con- nected video equipment.	Audio/video or DV cable is not properly connected.	Connect audio/video or DV cable properly (pp. 56–58).
Ğ	Remote control does not function.	REMOTE menu item is set to "OFF".	Set REMOTE menu item to "ON" (pp. 37, 38).
		Remote control battery has run down.	Replace remote control batteries with new ones (p. 37).
		Remote control used beyond operating range.	Use remote control within operating range (p. 38).
		Intense daylight falling on camcorder remote sensor.	Protect remote sensor from exposure to intense daylight (p. 38).
		Obstacle between remote control and camcorder remote sensor.	Remove obstacle or use remote control from different angle (p. 38).

- This unit is equipped with a microprocessor. Its performance could be adversely affected by external
  electrical noise or interference. If this should happen, turn off the power and disconnect the unit from
  any power sources, including the lithium battery, etc. Then reconnect the power sources to resume
  operation.
- If the characters displayed in the viewfinder or on the LCD monitor appear to malfunction, disconnect
  the power source and remove the lithium battery, then reconnect the power source, insert the lithium
  battery, and turn the power on again. The characters should be normal. Set the date and time, then
  resume operation.

# **Specifications**

#### Camcorder

Signal System: NTSC standard

Recording System: 2 rotary heads, helical scanning system

Cassette: Digital VCR Mini DV video cassette Recording/Playback Time: 90 minutes (DVM60, LP mode)

Tape Speed: SP mode: 18.812 mm/second LP mode: 12.555 mm/second

Pickup Device: 1/4" (6.4 mm, effective size: 4.5 mm) CCD image sensor (with

approx. 460,000 pixels including optical black)

26× optical/780× digital power zoom lens (F1.6,

f=3.5-91.0 mm), full-range auto focus Lens Filter Diameter: 37 mm

Viewfinder: Electronic LCD color viewfinder

Monitor: 2.5" (6.3 cm) full-color LCD screen (TFT active matrix)

Microphone: Electret stereo microphone

Color Temperature Compensation: Auto white balance with white balance lock

Minimum Illumination: 1 lux (9 lux measured by EIA standard) (with gain-up, F1.6) Power Requirement: DC 7.4 V

Power Consumption: 4.0 W (during camera recording using the viewfinder in Full Auto

mode with zoom motor off)

4.8 W (during camera recording using the LCD monitor in Full Auto mode with zoom motor off and backlight in normal mode)

Operating Temperature: 32°F to 104°F (0°C to +40°C)

Operating Humidity: 30% to 80%

Storage Temperature:  $-4^{\circ}$ F to  $140^{\circ}$ F ( $-20^{\circ}$ C to  $+60^{\circ}$ C) Dimensions (approx.):  $3^{11/16''}$  (W)  $\times 4^{21/32''}$  (H)  $\times 7^{11/32''}$  (D)

 $[93.7 \text{ mm (W)} \times 118 \text{ mm (H)} \times 186.5 \text{ mm (D)}]$ 

Weight (approx.): 1.57 lbs (710 g) (without battery pack, lithium battery, video

cassette and lens cap)

#### AC Adapter/Battery Charger (UADP-0321TAZZ)

Power Requirement: AC 110-240 V, 50/60 Hz

DC Output: 7.3 V Power Consumption: 23 W

Dimensions (approx.):  $2^{23}/32''$  (W)  $\times 1^{11}/16''$  (H)  $\times 4^{7}/16''$  (D)

[69 mm (W)  $\times$  43 mm (H)  $\times$  113 mm (D)]

Weight (approx.): 0.35 lbs (160 g)

Specifications are subject to change without notice.

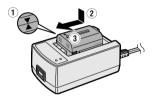
# **SERVICE INFORMATION (For the U.S.)**

For the location of the nearest Sharp Authorized Service, or to obtain product literature, accessories, supplies or customer assistance, please call 1-800-BE SHARP (1-800-237-4277) or visit SHARP's website (http://www.sharp-usa.com).

# Guía de operación rápida en español

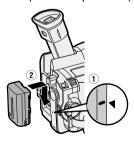
# Carga de la batería

- 1 Conecte el cable de alimentación suministrado al zócalo de alimentación de CA del adaptador de CA/cargador de baterías, y enchufe la clavija de CA en una toma de corriente.
- Alinee la marca ▼ de la batería con la marca ▲ del cargador (1) e introduzca la batería guiándola en la ranura. Presionando la batería (2), deslícela en el sentido de la flecha (3) hasta que quede bloqueada en posición.



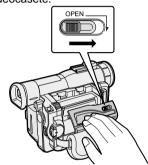
# Colocación de la batería

- 1 Asegúrese de que el interruptor de alimentación esté en OFF.
- 2 Levante el visor.
- Alinee la marca del costado de la batería con la marca del de la videocámara (①), y deslice la batería completamente hacia abajo hasta que quede bloqueada en posición (②).

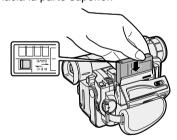


# Inserción de un minivideocasete DV

1 Coloque la fuente de alimentación en la videocámara, y luego deslice el control de abertura de la puerta del compartimento del videocasete y abra la puerta del compartimento del videocasete.

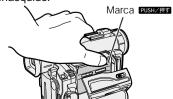


2 Inserte completamente el videocasete con la ventanilla hacia fuera y con la lengüeta de protección contra borrado hacia la parte superior.



Pulse suavemente la marca pusta hasta que el portavideocasete encaje en posición produciendo un chasquido.

Cierre la puerta del compartimento pulsando sobre el centro hasta que quede cerrada produciendo un chasquido.



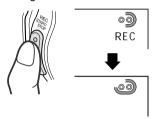
# Grabación fácil con la videocámara

- 1 Asegúrese de que se encuentre insertado un casete.
- Quite la tapa del objetivo y levante el visor.
- Mantenga pulsado el botón de bloqueo y ponga el interruptor de alimentación en CAMERA.



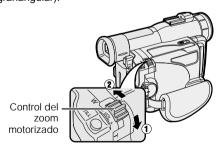
Botón de bloqueo

Pulse el botón REC START/STOP para iniciar la grabación.



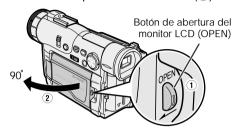
# Empleo del zoom

Pulse el control del zoom motorizado hacia el lado de la T (1) (telefoto) o el lado de la W (2) (granangular).



# Reproducción de cinta

1 Pulse el botón de abertura del monitor LCD (OPEN) (1) y abra el monitor LCD de manera que forme un ángulo de 90° con el cuerpo de la videocámara (2).



- 2 Ajuste el monitor LCD con un ángulo que permita ver fácilmente las imágenes de la pantalla.
- 3 Mantenga pulsado el botón de bloqueo y ponga el interruptor de alimentación en VCR.



Botón de bloqueo

Pulse ◄ (o ►) del botón de operación para rebobinar (o avanzar rápidamente) la cinta hasta el punto deseado.



5 Pulse ►/ II para iniciar la reproducción.

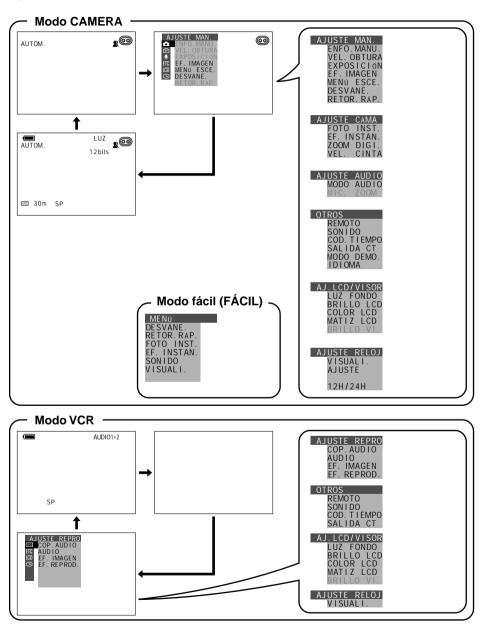


#### Para detener la reproducción

Pulse ■.

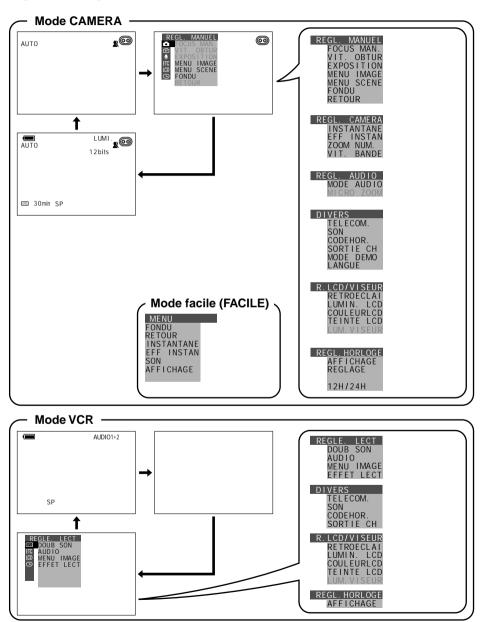
# Visualizaciones en pantalla en español

Cuando se selecciona "ESPAÑOL" como idioma de la visualización en pantalla aparecen las siguientes visualizaciones indicadas a continuación.



# Affichages sur écran en français

Les affichages sur écran suivants apparaissent lorsque "FRANÇAIS" est sélectionné pour la langue de l'affichage.





#### CONSUMER LIMITED WARRANTY

SHARP ELECTRONICS CORPORATION warrants to the first consumer purchaser that this Sharp brand product (the "Product"), when shipped in its original container, will be free from defective workmanship and materials, and agrees that it will, at its option, either repair the defect or replace the defective Product or part thereof with a new or remanufactured equivalent at no charge to the purchaser for parts or labor for the period(s) set forth below.

This warranty does not apply to any appearance items of the Product nor to the additional excluded item(s) set forth below nor to any Product the exterior of which has been damaged or defaced, which has been subjected to improper voltage or other misuse, abnormal service or handling, or which has been altered or modified in design or construction.

In order to enforce the rights under this limited warranty, the purchaser should follow the steps set forth below and provide proof of purchase to the servicer.

The limited warranty described herein is in addition to whatever implied warranties may be granted to purchasers by law. ALL IMPLIED WARRANTIES INCLUDING THE WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR USE ARE LIMITED TO THE PERIOD(S) FROM THE DATE OF PURCHASE SET FORTH BELOW. Some states do not allow limitations on how long an implied warranty lasts, so the above limitation may not apply to you.

Neither the sales personnel of the seller nor any other person is authorized to make any warranties other than those described herein, or to extend the duration of any warranties beyond the time period described herein on behalf of Sharp.

The warranties described herein shall be the sole and exclusive warranties granted by Sharp and shall be the sole and exclusive remedy available to the purchaser. Correction of defects, in the manner and for the period of time described herein, shall constitute complete fulfillment of all liabilities and responsibilities of Sharp to the purchaser with respect to the Product, and shall constitute full satisfaction of all claims, whether based on contract, negligence, strict liability or otherwise. In no event shall Sharp be liable, or in any way responsible, for any damages or defects in the Product which were caused by repairs or attempted repairs performed by anyone other than an authorized servicer. Nor shall Sharp be liable or in any way responsible for any incidental or consequential economic or property damage. Some states do not allow the exclusion of incidental or consequential damages, so the above exclusion may not apply to you.

THIS WARRANTY GIVES YOU SPECIFIC LEGAL RIGHTS. YOU MAY ALSO HAVE OTHER RIGHTS WHICH VARY FROM STATE TO STATE.

Model Specific Section

Your Product Model Number & Description:

VL-WD250U Camcorder

(Be sure to have this information available when you need service

for your Product.)

Warranty Period for this Product:

One (1) year parts and ninety (90) days labor from date of purchase except for the rechargeable battery incorporated in this Product which is warranted for thirty (30) days from date of purchase.

Additional Item(s) Excluded from Warranty Coverage (if any):

Non-rechargeable batteries.

Where to Obtain Service:

From a Sharp Authorized Servicer located in the United States. To find the location of the nearest Sharp Authorized Servicer, call Sharp

toll free at 1-800-BE-SHARP.

What to do to Obtain Service:

Ship prepaid or carry in your Product to a Sharp Authorized Servicer. Be sure to have **Proof of Purchase** available. If you ship the Prod-

uct, be sure it is insured and packaged securely.

TO OBTAIN SUPPLY, ACCESSORY OR PRODUCT INFORMATION, GO TO OUR WEBSITE AT www.sharp-usa.com OR CALL 1-800-BE-SHARP



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